## **#VOTE CLIMATE JUSTICE**

## How to Write a Letter To The Editor about Climate Justice

- 1. Don't worry about perfection. Sending an ok letter today is 100% better than sending an excellent letter sometime soon.
- 2. Write a draft right now, then read the rest of this guide.
- 3. Keep it short. Remember writing 3-paragraph essays in high-school? It should be like that, except not boring. A longer piece is called an op-ed, and if you're up for that we fully support you.
- 4. Start with a simple salutation. To the Editor is fine.
- Did you talk about reducing greenhouse gas emissions? Talk about the cause.
  Talk about solutions.
- 6. Be specific. If you're talking about the big picture, talk about the .... Maybe the editor doesn't know about it and you should tell them. Or, keep it local and talk about...
- If you haven't already sent it, or if you didn't even write a draft like I said to at the beginning, you can read <u>this much better guide by Climate Council</u> <u>Australia</u>.

## WHERE TO SEND YOUR LETTER

Where are you sending this, anyway? You should send your letter to a local paper (or any news source, frankly) that you personally read. Find your paper's specifications for "Letters To The Editor"; mostly you need an email address and a word-count limit. (If you can't find a word-count limit, aim for 150 words.)

Here are the Letters-To-The-Editor pages for some major Maine papers: <u>Portland Press Herald</u> <u>Bangor Daily News</u> <u>The Portland/Northern/Mid-Coast/Southern Forecaster</u> (look down, lower left of page for box of instructions) <u>Kennebec Daily Journal</u> <u>Coastal Journal (Send your email to both the Associate Editor and the</u> <u>Executive Editor.</u>)

And lastly, let us know if your letter gets published! Share the link with us and we'll post it. **Thank you for being a climate justice voter!**