#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.
- 4. Start with a simple salutation. *To the Editor* is fine.
- 5. Did you talk about reducing greenhouse gas emissions? Talk about the cause. Talk about solutions.
- 6. Be specific. For example (big picture) 54% of Maine's greenhouse gas emissions come from our Transportation sector. Maybe the editor doesn't know about it and you should tell them. Or talk about what's happening in your town (keep it local) a new community solar farm? Or a rejection of requiring charging stations for new builds of a certain size.
- 7. 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 fuller guide by Climate Council 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:

Portland Press Herald

Bangor Daily News

Lewiston Sun Journal

The Portland/Northern/Mid-Coast/Southern Forecaster

Kennebec Daily Journal

<u>Coastal Journal</u> (Send your email to both the Associate Editor and the Executive Editor.)

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!**