



Template - Letter to the Editor (LTE) (Updated February 6, 2025)

Letters to the editor (LTE) are widely read not only by members of Congress and their staff, but also the general public, newspaper editors and reporters, and other opinion leaders. An LTE that speaks to a broader audience, and underscores AmeriCorps' vital importance to the local community, is a great way to get your legislator's attention and garner more public support.

For additional support, check out our one pager: "[Tips for Writing a Letter to the Editor.](#)"

Below is an LTE template that you should customize with your story or insights:

[Note: we recommend you look at the LTEs in the paper you are targeting to get a flavor for the types of letters they publish. Also, be sure to check the paper's LTE instructions, especially word length guidance.]

Subject: Cuts to AmeriCorps Would Devastate [City or State/Program Name]

Dear Editor,

Thousands of people in our community [city/state] rely on the critical services of AmeriCorps members, who are the "people power" behind many of our nonprofit and faith-based organizations – including [x, y, and z].

Yet today, these services, which yield more than \$17 in benefits for every \$1 invested by Congress, are in serious jeopardy as Congress is considering cuts to AmeriCorps. This would devastate our ability to ... [a couple of sentences of details and why it is important].

We should do everything in our power to ensure funding for AmeriCorps is protected. I urge our congressional delegation [you can name your Senators and the Rep. in paper's district] to protect funding for AmeriCorps so that AmeriCorps members can continue to make a positive impact in our community. With the explosion of needs in our country or [community/city/state], we should strengthen and grow AmeriCorps, not put it on the chopping block.

[Name]

[City, State]

[Email]

[Phone number]

[Some outlets may also ask for your title and organization]