

Writing a email to government officials

By: Dakota Riley

FAQ

Why should I care?

- Because contacting government officials is an impactful way that you, personally can advocate for

things you care about.

Who should I email?

- It depends what you are emailing about, but usually state legislators, governors, and city mayors.

Where do find emails for legislators/mayors/governors?

- It varies from state to state, but if you search up the location, title and email you will find an email address (for example, North Dakota Legislator email). You can also look under state websites contact section.

I don't know who to email about my issue

- It depends on the issue, but mostly it depends on location. If the issue is something happening in Fairbanks alaska it is a good idea to email the mayor of Fairbanks, the alaskan governor, and the legislator for Fairbanks's district.

Should I send a physical letter?

- Yes! Sending a physical letter is even better than emailing. Emailing is faster and more accessible, but a physical letter shows your resolve even more.

governor@nd.gov

Dakota Access Pipeline

Hello, my name is Dakota Riley and I am reaching out about conservation of native lands, specifically in regard to the Dakota Access pipeline. The Dakota Access Pipeline is a serious threat to clean water in the Standing Rock Indian Reservation as well as other areas in the region. Not only this, construction for the pipeline has bulldozed a sacred tribal site on privately owned land. I am asking for a permanent shutdown of the pipe system out of consideration of human safety rights, as well as respect for the Tribes that the pipe is harming. The pipeline is highly protested and during its construction it was shut down temporarily in December 2016 because of concern for its environmental impact, but it was cleared for construction six months later in June 2017.

Thank you for your consideration!

-Dakota Riley

In your email, your **heading should be the issue** you are emailing about. In the first sentence you should state your **first and last name**, and **the issue** you are emailing about.

Hello, my name is Dakota Riley and I am reaching out about conservation of native lands, specifically in regard to the Dakota Access pipeline. The Dakota Access Pipeline is a serious **threat to clean water** in the **Standing Rock Indian Reservation** as well as other areas in the region. Not only this, construction for the pipeline has bulldozed a sacred tribal site on privately owned land. I am asking for a permanent shutdown of the pipe system out of consideration of human safety rights, as well as respect for the Tribes that the pipe is harming. The pipeline is highly protested and during its construction it was shut down temporarily in December 2016 because of concern for its environmental impact, but it was cleared for construction six months later in June 2017.

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In the following sentences, **outline why** the thing you are emailing about needs attention. Make sure to use **specific** places and issues.

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Thank you for your consideration!

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Now that you are done talking about why the issue is a threat, introduce a **solution**.

governor@nd.gov

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In your email make sure to include **specific dates**, and **remind** the receiver that you are not the only one fighting for the issue. Also make sure to **thank** the person you are emailing for their consideration.