

## **‘U.S. Call to Action on Climate, Health and Equity: A Policy Action Agenda’ - Template Letter to the Editor**

*Below is a template Letter to the Editor for a health or medical professional to tailor and submit to media outlets about the [“U.S. Call to Action on Climate, Health and Equity: A Policy Action Agenda.”](#) For smaller papers, you most likely do not need to respond to a specific story; however, this is often required for larger daily papers. We have posted a list of news outlets that ran a story about the agenda; they will be more likely to run letters to the editor on the subject.*

*Keep in mind that word count limits may vary paper to paper, so check your paper’s website to see if they have set guidelines. If there aren’t any guidelines, aim to keep the LTE at 200 words or less.*

### **LTE Template (intended to be authored by a health professional)**

Every day, I see the toll climate change is taking on the health, safety and well-being of my patients and others in our community. The impacts are debilitating, from heat illness and exacerbating respiratory conditions like asthma or COPD, to declining mental health and insect-borne disease.

Personally, I see the way [INSERT DETAILS OF YOUR FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE OF WHAT YOU’VE SEEN IN YOUR OWN PATIENTS]. Climate change poses an even greater health threat to certain populations, including pregnant women, children and the elderly as well as some low-income and communities of color.

The health sector cannot tackle it alone. I stand with 85 organizations representing doctors, nurses, health systems, and public health professionals in urging all society leaders [including LOCAL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS], to limit climate disruption and protect health as outlined in a new [“U.S. Call to Action on Climate, Health and Equity: A Policy Action Agenda”](#). Support a transition to low carbon efficient energy systems and forms of transportation, support forest and agricultural practices including soil health that maximize sequestered carbon, make hospitals and communities resilient to climate change impacts, and help communities adversely effected by these changes. Waiting to act is simply not an option.