

How to Contact Lawmakers

The time is always right to make your voice heard. Handwritten letters are a powerful way to ask legislators to make the changes necessary to address your public policy concerns. Emails and phone calls work too!

You can write to your state legislator, and let them know those bills that you support or oppose. If you don't know who your legislators are, visit [this link](#) and put your address in the box on the map. Your state senator and representative will appear. Click on your lawmaker's name to find out the email, phone number, and/or physical address.

Let them know that you are a constituent if you are a voter in their district. If you are writing about a specific piece of legislation, include the bill number. House bills are referred to as HB*** and Senate bills SB****

Make an ask of them to oppose or support a bill and for a response. Include your mailing address with your correspondence so that they know you are a constituent and your email address if you want a reply that way.

Please refer to the sample letter below as a model for your own letter. This is only an example using death penalty repeal as the subject of the letter.

Today's date

Representative or Senator (your representative/senator's name here)

Address

City, TN Zip

Dear Representative (or Dear Senator) _____,

As your constituent, I am deeply concerned about the use of the death penalty system in Tennessee. It is ineffective, inefficient, costly to taxpayers, does not make us safer, and continues to risk executing an innocent person.

Because of the necessarily long and complicated legal process, the system is hard on murder victims' family members while alternative sentences like life without parole would at least provide them with legal finality more swiftly.

For all these reasons, I believe Tennessee should repeal the death penalty and use the savings to support victims' families.

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee – Committee on Social Justice
Updated March 4, 2024

I would like to hear from you about whether you would support death penalty repeal legislation in Tennessee.

Thank you for your service to Tennessee.

Sincerely,

(Signature here)

Name

Address

Email address
