

## Crafting a Letter to the Editor

A *Letter to the Editor (LTE)* is a letter sent to a publication about issues of concern from its readers. Letters to the editor are typically 150 words (that's short!) and have a single main point and single author (you). A letter to the editor should be to hook in readers, while focusing on a clear and concise message about a problem.

*Let's practice!*

**What is the publication in which you are looking to get published?** (Ex. The News & Observer, The NY Times, The Hill)

**What are the publication's rules for submitting Letters to the Editor?** (Hint: Use Google "[Name of Publication] LTE Submission")

**What is the problem you would like to discuss?** (Ex. Trump's recent nominee has justified high prescription drug prices as a cost for innovation in the pharmaceutical industry. Alex Azar's clear conflicts of interest as former president of Eli Lilly will mean less action on drug prices.)

**What is the solution?** (Ex. Americans cannot afford to have Alex Azar lead the nation's top health agency.)

**What needs to happen to reach this solution?** (Ex. Senators Brown and Portman need to stand with the people of Ohio and oppose the confirmation of Alex Azar to the post of Secretary of Health and Human Services. )

**Why is it relevant/what is the hook?** (Ex. On Monday, November 13, President Trump nominated a former pharmaceutical executive for secretary of Health and Human Services.)

**Can you explain this in 100-300 words?** (Practice on the back of this page!)