How to Write an Elected Official

Addressing Your Senator:

The Honorable (full name) (Room #) (Name) Senate Office Building United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

Addressing Your Representative:

The Honorable (full name) (Room #) (Name) House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

For state officials:

Governor

The Honorable (full name) Office of the Governor Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor 1111 East Broad Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor (last name):

General Assembly Members

The Honorable (Delegate/Senator's First and Last Name) 910 Capitol Square Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Senator or Mr. or Ms. (for Delegate)____:

Outline for Letter:

- 1. Address a single topic.
- 2. State why you are writing.
- 3. Be as specific as possible.
- 4. Be formal and factual.
- 5. Include the number of the bill (if possible).
- 6. State the action desired (viz., a vote for or against a bill; a shift in policy).
- 7. Be courteous thank the official for his or her time/consideration.
- 8. Request a response indicating the official's position on the issue.