

Feel free to put this in your own words—this is just an example. Addresses: U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510; U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515

Date

Dear Senator (or Representative) \_\_\_\_\_,

I hope you are doing well.

As a Christian, I take seriously stewardship of God's earth. This includes caring for other living creatures, as well as making sure the earth is healthy enough to provide for humankind.

Global warming presents a clear and present danger to the earth and to our neighbors. If this warming continues unchecked, thousands of species of plants and animals will be jeopardized, of which polar bears are but the most noticeable poster child. And human beings, beginning with the poorest and most marginalized, will certainly be affected as well. As the climate changes, crops will diminish, storms will increase in severity, diseases will spread, and water resources will become even more problematic. Thus, global warming is both an ecological and human justice issue of the highest order. I feel it is also against God's wishes for this earth.

I realize there are a variety of bills before Congress at the present time on this issue. **I encourage you to support the strongest possible legislation to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide and other potent greenhouse gases.** For my part, I will monitor and reduce my energy use and be an advocate for reducing greenhouse gases in my church and community.

Certainly there will be costs associated with reducing our emissions, but there will certainly be greater costs—borne by our children—if we do not. And there will also surely be economic gains in retooling our economy for a new cleaner era.

Best wishes in your important work.

Sincerely,

(Address)

Draft of letter provided by David Radcliff, director, New Community Project, 718 Wilder St., Elgin, IL 60123.