

# LETTERS TO CONGRESS – TEMPLATES

## **SAMPLE LETTERS TO CONGRESS**

Please modify these template to suit your campaign – it will be more effective if personalized.

If you are not sure of the name of your representative or senator, go to: [www.congress.org](http://www.congress.org) and enter your zip code and you will be given a list of your congressional representatives and senators.

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*(For Younger Students)*

Name of Representative or Senator

Address

City, State Zip

Date

Dear (name of representative or senator),

Students at (name of school) are collecting pennies for Pennies for Peace to promote and support community-based education, especially for girls, in remote mountain regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

We want to live in a safe, peaceful world, and we want other children to live in a safe, peaceful world, too. We know that education is a way to help poor children around the world have hope for a better life. Please vote to provide more money to help them.

This penny we send you is the first step to peace. Please keep it in your pocket to remind you of our hope for peace.

Sincerely,

*(Have all students sign the letter.)*

Attach a penny to your letter to serve as a reminder to your representative or senator, and tell him or her to visit [www.penniesforpeace.org](http://www.penniesforpeace.org).

*(For Older Students)*

Name of Representative or Senator  
Address  
City, State Zip

Date

Dear (name of representative or senator),

Students at (name of school) have begun a Pennies for Peace campaign. The money we raise will be donated to Pennies for Peace to support and promote community-based education, especially for girls, in remote mountain regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Thousands of schools, and tens of thousands of students, have participated in Pennies for Peace over the past decade.

In 1970, 22 of the world's richest countries pledged to spend 0.7% of their gross national income (GNI) on aid. Thirty-eight years later, only five countries have kept that promise – not including the United States. (Source: <http://endpoverty2015.org/goals/global-partnership>.) At the 2000 UN Millennium Summit, world leaders from rich and poor countries alike committed themselves – at the highest political level – to a set of eight time-bound targets, including one for universal education:

*Every human being should have the opportunity to make a better life for themselves. Unfortunately, too many children in the world today grow up without this chance, because they are denied their basic right to even attend primary school. A sustainable end to world poverty as we know it, as well as the path to peace and security, require that citizens in every country are empowered to make positive choices and provide for themselves and their families. (Source: <http://endpoverty2015.org/goals/universal-education>.)*

We want to live in a safe, peaceful world, and education is the key to this change. Please help us make this change today. In the next budget cycle, vote for a foreign aid budget of at least 0.7% of GNI. Please leave us, and your own children, a peaceful world. The penny we send you is the first step to peace. Please keep it in your pocket to remind you of our hope for peace.

Sincerely,

*(Have all students sign the letter.)*

Attach a penny to your letter to serve as a reminder to your representative or senator, and tell him or her to visit [www.penniesforpeace.org](http://www.penniesforpeace.org).