

Editorials and Letters to the Editor

SEBAC and its member unions want to empower you to share your voice so that you can spread the message – loud and clear – that working people and working families are the backbone of this nation and of Connecticut. Time is up when budgets are balanced on those citizens who can least afford it.

Below are a few guidelines that may help your voice to be heard and be published.

Letters to the editor:

Letters should address a matter of public interest or current news and events. They must be sent in quickly to keep up with the news cycle and remain relevant. Letters are shorter than opinion pieces and should be no more than 200 words. Depending on the news outlet, your letter could be edited for length. You always have the right to take back your submission. Submissions must include the author's name and hometown. Anonymous letters are not accepted.

Op-eds:

Op-eds are typically limited to 700 words and priority is given to local residents who may have expertise in their subject and their comment relates to current news topics. Avoid jargon, which tunes the editor out, lessening the likelihood of your piece being published. Rather than an “official sounding” or “academic” tone, write in your own voice, which comes across as more genuine and readable. Focus on one point rather than a discourse on all societal woes.

Some other op-ed writing tips:

- Make your main point in the first paragraph so the reader – and importantly the editor – knows up-front why you are writing this and why they should continue reading it.
- Include your sources if you have facts to support your point of view. Editors will fact-check submissions. If you make it easy for them to do this, they may be more willing to choose your piece over another.
- Keep sentences short and concise. Less is more when space and attention spans are limited.
- Give your op-ed a strong ending that sums up your position succinctly.
- Use AP style if you know it. If you don't, reach out to your friendly communications director who does and who can help you edit for AP style.

Op-eds should be sent to “**INSERT CONTACT HERE**,” who will place the opinion piece with a targeted media outlet and monitor submissions to ensure they are published. “**CONTACT**” can also assist with AP style and other edits as needed. Contact “**PERSON**” at “**DETAILS**” with any questions.

Following is a list of local and state-wide media outlets and links to their specific requirements:

- [Hartford Courant](#)
- [CT Mirror](#)
- [Journal Inquirer](#)
- [New Haven Register](#)
- [The Day](#)
- [The Middletown Press](#)
- [The New Britain Herald](#)
- [The Republican American](#)