

# Sample Argumentative Brainstorming Page

**Prompt:** Write a persuasive letter to one of your congresspeople to present an argument about why they should take immediate action to combat climate change.

- Congressperson's name, position, and party: Rosa DeLauro, House of Representatives,  
Democrat (Congress.gov)
- Congressperson's engagement with climate-related policies: elected to lead Appropriations  
Committee in 2020. Promised to rebuild "budgets of federal agencies tasked with protecting our  
public health, air, water and lands, ensuring adequate funding to right environmental injustices  
communities of color face" (LCV)

<b>Consequences of Climate Change</b>	<b>Evidence</b> (Descriptions, Examples, Quotations, or Statistics)
Increased temperatures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avg. CT air temp increased by 2.2.F (CT Dept. of Energy, p. 4)</li> <li>• "Connecticut has warmed twice as much as the rest of the contiguous 48 states." (EPA, p. 1)</li> <li>• Increased rates of heat-related illness (CT Dept. of Energy, p. 19)</li> <li>• Fewer frost days create conditions for more ticks, mosquitoes, and plant pests, "adversely affecting both forests and agriculture" (Yale Center, p. 5)</li> </ul>
Sea level rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Sea level is rising, and severe storms increasingly cause floods that damage property and infrastructure." (EPA, p. 1)</li> <li>• "61% of Connecticut's 3.6 million people live in coastal communities prone to flooding." (CT Dept. of Energy, p. 6)</li> <li>• "...by 2080 Connecticut could lose up to 24,000 acres of land due to sea level rise." (CT Dept. of Energy, p. 6)</li> <li>• "Predictions by CIRCA show Connecticut sea level rise could increase 1.5 feet by 2050 and up to 3 feet by 2100" (CT Dept. of Energy, p. 6)</li> </ul>

<p>Air quality/forest fire smoke</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● "These frequent dry periods cause stress to forests and agriculture systems and increase the potential of fires." (CT Dept. of Energy, p. 11)</li> <li>● Higher temps → more energy used to cool → more burning of fossil fuels → more toxins in the air → "a big stress on the public's pulmonary health" (CT Dept. of Energy, p. 19)</li> <li>● "In fact, the American Lung Association gave all eight Connecticut counties an F grade for ozone pollution in its 2019 <i>State of the Air Report</i>." (Yale Center, p. 8)</li> </ul>
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**Resources:**

- ["LCV Statement on Election of Rep. Rosa DeLauro to Chair the House Appropriations Committee"](#) by the League of Conservation Voters (LCV)
- ["Connecticut: Our Changing Climate"](#) by the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
- ["What Climate Change Means for Connecticut"](#) by the United States Environmental Protection Agency
- ["Climate Change and Health in Connecticut: 2020 Report Executive Summary"](#) by the Yale Center on Climate Change and Health