

PHONE SCRIPT IN SUPPORT OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE PARKS AND FORESTS

Hello [NAME OF RESPRESENTATIVE/SENATOR].

Thank you for taking my call. I'm a constituent from **[CITY/TOWN]** and I am calling to express my support for Pennsylvania's state parks and forests and to let you know that this year marks the 125th anniversary of these public lands.

Did you know that Pennsylvania's state parks and forests provide your constituents with many benefits? For instance, the 40 million visitors a year generate more than \$1 billion a year for our economy through visitor purchases of hotel rooms, dinners, souvenirs, and other amenities. The return on taxpayer investment in our state parks alone was estimated at nearly \$12.41 for every \$1 invested, according to a 2012 study by Penn State University. Other studies show that visiting state parks and forests can reduce medical costs as 60 to 90 percent by reducing feelings of depression and anxiety, lowering blood pressure, and helping achieve a healthier lifestyle.

As a constituent, I urge you to support a stable and consistent source of funding for long term maintenance and upgrades to our state parks and forests, which will ensure the 125-year legacy is continued for generations to come.

Pennsylvania's state parks and forests create jobs, help people stay healthy, and provide clean water and air, and so much more. During this anniversary year, please consider creating dedicated funds to support the legacy.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME and ROLE]