



704 Lisburn Road | Suite 102 | Camp Hill, PA 17011 | (717) 236-7644

Dear [[Legislator's Title+Lastname]] :

As the General Assembly enters June--a month in which critical decisions will be made about the Commonwealth's next fiscal year budget and about how best to protect our communities and natural resources from the rapid expansion of data centers--the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation would like to share recent polling data that reflects how your constituents view these issues.

The Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization that provides a voice for the Commonwealth's 125 state parks and 2.2 million acres of state forest.

Attached is a polling memo from Susquehanna Polling & Research summarizing the results of a statewide survey conducted in March. The findings show that your constituents place a high value on the role state parks and forests play in their quality of life. Notably, **86 percent of likely Pennsylvania voters believe that funding for state parks and forests should be a priority of state government.** This strong support is consistent across party identification (87 percent of Republicans and 85 percent of Democrats), age, gender, geographic region, and ethnicity.

Your constituents also express strong support for protecting state parks and forests from data center development and new energy infrastructure. **By a margin of 79 percent to 11 percent, likely voters support requiring buffers or setbacks for data center construction near state parks or forests--even if such requirements increase construction costs.** This support is again consistent across party identification (79 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Democrats), age, gender, geographic region, and ethnicity.

The Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation is supportive of the level of funding for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources included in the budget bill that passed the House. We also support House Bill 2150 (water and energy reporting for data centers) and House Bill 2151 (development of an optional model local ordinance for data centers), both of which await consideration in the Senate.

We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

Marci Mowery, President

The Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation (PAParksAndForests.org) represents 48 chapters across the state and the thousands of Pennsylvanians who have donated nearly 146,000 hours over the last three years alone to improve our parks and forests annually.