

EMAIL/LETTER TEMPLATE IN SUPPORT OF THE  
125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE PARKS AND FORESTS

**[Date]**

**Honorable [Name of Senator or Representative]**

**Address 1**

**Harrisburg, PA [zip based on mailbox] or use district office address**

Dear Representative/Senator **[NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE/SENATOR]**,

Thank you for your recent support/assistance with *(note something positive to start)*

I'm a constituent from **[CITY/TOWN]** and I am writing to express my support for Pennsylvania's state parks and forests and to share with you that 2018 marks the 125<sup>th</sup> 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.
- ▶ State parks and forests also provide us with many ecological benefits such as clean air and water.

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.

There is much happening in our parks and forests every day—from volunteer days to events, to restoration projects, to major improvements. Yet more needs to be done.

Considering visiting our state parks and forests to better understand their needs.

*(If you are willing to give them a tour, or have an event in which to invite them, mention here.)*

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]**

