

Please say no to the budget cuts for our State Parks. These Parks are the **jewels of our tourism resources** in Connecticut. They bring in more than one billion dollars every year and employ over 9,000 persons. Presently the parks are barely skimming by as they have been underfunded, understaffed. Once land is let go, it takes a huge effort of time and funds to bring it back into useable condition. The surrounding communities depend on the thousands of visitors **to keep their businesses viable**. Cutting funds to our parks, cuts funds to our business communities.

Thank you, for allowing my input to this important appropriation. Sidney & Claiborne C. Van Zandt, 3 Front St., P.O. box 9173, Groton, CT 06340