



Dear Governor Brown,

I am a business owner in California who values the natural beauty and historical importance of our State Parks and I want to protect them. I write to express my concern over the \$22 million general fund budget cut that you approved, which will result in the closure of 70 State Parks across California.

In all 100 years of California's State Park system, through two world wars and the Great Depression, California's State Parks have never permanently closed until now. Families rely on these parks for affordable vacations and picnics. State Parks are where they come to swim, hike, or go boating and surfing. Our State Parks are also home to countless plants and animals unique to California. These are places where teachers bring their students to learn from nature and from history and we should have them in our lives and the lives of our children forever.

As a business owner, I am also concerned about the economic impact of closing State Parks. The parks themselves generate \$4 billion a year in local economic activity across the state. The outdoor recreation industry, where hikers, bikers and campers in our parks get their equipment, supports over 408,000 California jobs and generates \$46 billion a year in revenue. Hotels, locally-owned bed and breakfast establishments, restaurants, and many more businesses that rely on parks for visitation and economic activity will be devastated by State Park closures. Remove the cuts to our State Parks from next year's budget for the sake of our natural, cultural and economic future.

Sincerely,