

Sample Script for Calling your Senator and Representative

Good Morning/Afternoon,

May I please speak with Senator/Representative ____ to voice my concerns about the state budget?

<Wait for response. Be ready to write down the name of the person you end up speaking with.>

Thank you so much.

My name is _____,

First I want to thank you for your ongoing support of agriculture and specifically the Penn State College of Ag Sciences Research and Extension Programs. I am calling today because I am extremely concerned that the FY15/16 budget for the college was part of the Governor's line-item veto and currently stands at zero.

If the Land Scrip fund in the PDA budget, which funds the college, is not restored, it will have devastating impacts on the college, including the elimination of Penn State Extension in all 67 counties and the closing of the research stations across the state.

This issue is important to me as: *<Mention 3 points: 2 facts from the talking points provided and 1 personal story how these programs impact you.>*

If speaking to a Senator's office: **The Senate has introduced a supplemental funding bill to restore funding to the Land Scrip Fund, as well as several other ag lines. I am seeking your support of the language contained in SB1120 that restores the Land Scrip Fund to \$50.3 million.**

If speaking to a Representative's office: **The House has introduced a supplemental funding bill to restore funding to the Land Scrip Fund, as well as several other ag lines. I am seeking your support of the language contained in HB1831 that restores the Land Scrip Fund to \$50.3 million.**

Thank you very much for listening. Do you have any questions for me? *<Answer as you see fit. Do not lay blame or seem angry. Be passionate and positive about why this issue is important to you. If you do not know an answer to a question, it's OK to say so. Write down the question and email*

AgCouncil@psu.edu. We can either respond to you with the answer or call the legislator directly.>

Thank you again for speaking with me ____ *<insert name of the person you are speaking with>*. I appreciate your support. Have a great day. **Good bye.**