



## **Memorandum in Support**

**Bill:** S142 by Senator Little  
**Title:** An act to amend the tax law, in relation to establishing the gift to state parks on personal income tax forms; and to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing the state parks fund

### **The Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) Supports this Legislation.**

This legislation allows a personal income taxpayer the ability to make a gift to state parks on their tax returns and establishes the state parks fund.

The New York State Park System makes a valuable contribution to the quality of life of New York's residents. This legislation would allow New York State income tax payers to recognize the importance of the New York State Parks by making a financial contribution on their personal income tax form. In recent years the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) has faced budget cuts. In 2010, former Governor Paterson announced that there would be park closings due to budget cuts. An outcry from New York residents in support of their parks subsequently helped increase funding. However, it has become clear that New York needs to find additional sources to fund its great state park system. This legislation would provide individuals the opportunity to give a gift to a state parks fund to help support the operation and maintenance of the state parks they love.

ADK is comprised of 28,000 hikers, paddlers, skiers, backpackers and outdoor enthusiasts who rely on state parks for various recreational opportunities. This legislation will allow members and supporters to acknowledge the importance of these parks with a financial contribution on their personal income tax form.

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