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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg AMERICAN LEGION BUILDING 3 WEST RIDGE STREET LANSFORD, PA 18232 WEDNESDAY 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
HUMAN SERVICES
TOURISM &
RECREATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT
TRANSPORTATION

July 20, 2020

Secretary Cindy Dunn 400 Market St., RCSOB Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Secretary Dunn,

I am writing you today with my concerns regarding Beltzville State Park in Carbon County. With the current restrictions to businesses across the state, we need to ensure the lake and surrounding communities do not become a COVID hot spot. Recent social media reports and videos show large groups of out of state visitors who are not following social distancing guidelines, are smoking marijuana and consuming alcohol, lighting off fireworks and swimming in restricted areas without any adherence to social distancing guidelines.

This footage has raised safety concerns for local and state first responders and property owners. I am requesting that you take immediate action to prohibit non-Pennsylvania residents from access to the swimming area, day use recreation area and hiking trails at Beltzville State Park. Boating and fishing access should be permitted in designated areas provided that all CDC guidelines and state license and permitting regulations are followed.

It makes no sense to restrict businesses from safely operating across the Commonwealth only to allow this lawlessness on our state-owned properties.

Sincerely,

Representative Doyle Heffley

122nd Legislative District

CC: Governor Thomas Wolf

Eric Nelson Alma Holmes