



Governor/Mayor/Legislator Phone Call Script

Hello, my name is **[Your Name]** and I am a constituent calling from **[City/Town]**. I am reaching out to encourage you to lead progressively and aggressively in the State of Connecticut by addressing racism as a public health crisis.

Systemic and structural racism play a large role in determining the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and affects people's access to quality housing, education, food, transportation, political power, and other social determinants of health. Racism also has negative mental and physical health consequences such as, depression, anxiety, hypertension, preterm birth, shortened life span and poor quality of life. Understanding and addressing racism from this public health perspective is crucial to eliminating racial and ethnic inequities, and to improving opportunity and well-being across communities. Racism has been declared a public health crisis in 5 states, 182 municipalities, entities, and organizations, including 20 municipalities in Connecticut. Racism has been linked to the following health disparities:

If going to the Governor: I ask, that by executive order, you declare racism a public health crisis and support legislation that dismantles systemic racism and improves public health and well-being.

If going to your Mayor: I ask that you declare and address racism as a public health crisis in our town/municipality.

If going to your Legislator: I ask that you create and support legislation that dismantles systemic racism and improves public health and well-being.