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HOUSE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE
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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE HEARING
Topic: State Police Fee For Municipalities Without Local Police
University of Pittsburgh – Pittsburgh, PA
March 27, 2017

AGENDA

- 2:00 p.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- 2:10 p.m. Panel of State Officials:
- Dan Cessna
Engineering District 11 Executive, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
 - Marita Kelley
Deputy Director of Governor's Center for Local Government Services,
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
 - Lt. Col. Stephen Bucar
Deputy Commissioner of Staff, Pennsylvania State Police
- 2:50 p.m. Joe Kovel
President
Pennsylvania State Troopers Association
- 3:10 p.m. Panel from Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors:
- AJ Boni, Supervisor of Perry Township, Fayette County
 - Elam Herr, Assistant Executive Director/Government Affairs
- 3:40 p.m. Panel from Shaler Township:
- Tom McElhone, Commissioner
 - Tim Rogers, Manager
- 4:00 p.m. Closing Remarks

Dan Cessna, Engineering District 11 Executive, PennDOT
Testimony for 3/27/17 House Democratic Policy Committee Hearing
on State Police Funding Issues

Mr. Chairman and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to address the state police funding issue.

We are grateful for the agreement the Legislature and Governor Wolf reached last year on finding a way to move forward to better balance state police needs with ongoing highway and bridge needs.

The initiatives to enhance funding for the State Police including the fiscal code, municipality fees and fee increases will allow funding to remain available in the Motor License Fund for additional highway and bridge improvements across the state, which will stimulate local economies and help sustain jobs. National estimates project that every \$1 billion in infrastructure investment sustains roughly 25,000 jobs.

We expect to have an additional \$2.1 billion for highways and bridges over the ten-year phase-in period for the state police funding cap. During the Business Plan reviews we conduct each year with staff in our eleven district offices, we heard repeatedly about the increasing challenges they face for basic maintenance, interstate reconstruction, and our secondary road network, especially on lower volume roads and especially in rural areas. The districts and counties do tremendous work to maintain our system, and it became clear to me that the impact of an unchanged maintenance allocation to our counties since 2006 was no longer tenable.

Without the enhanced revenue resulting from the cap on funding from the Motor License Fund for state police operations and its subsequent dedication to maintenance, maintenance budgets – already stagnate for many years – would decline moving forward, given other expected claims on PennDOT's resources. This decline would affect rural and four-digit roadways most severely.

As a result, Secretary Richards has directed that we start a new initiative, which we are calling PennDOT's RoadMaP, which stands for Maintenance and Preservation. With the additional \$2.1 billion, we plan to allocate \$1 billion over the ten-year period to the counties for improved basic maintenance; an additional \$500 million to our existing interstate preservation program, bringing that ten-year program to \$1 billion; and \$600 million will go toward highway and bridge capital projects, with priority given to rehabilitation and reconstruction needs identified through our district and regional planning efforts. PennDOT RoadMaP will bring a new emphasis on pavement improvements to the secondary, lower volume road network. One way we can accomplish this is by expanding the use of recycled asphalt taken from improvement projects. This will be accomplished by several means, ranging from full depth recycling of the existing pavement structure to overlays with cold recycled asphalt and warm mix asphalt containing a high percentage of recycled material. We will expand these best practices and environmentally

friendly ways of reusing asphalt in counties in two more districts across the state starting in 2017, with expansion to additional counties and districts in 2018. This will help us address the pavement improvement backlog on our secondary system and particularly the low-volume rural roads.

I would note that the areas to see benefits from RoadMaP are by and large the same areas that now benefit from State Police providing their police protection.

To make our maintenance and preservation investment go further under PennDOT's RoadMaP, we have undertaken a County Transformation program to extensively rethink and retool our county maintenance operations. Each county is undergoing peer examinations to learn and establish best practices across the state. As part of our PennDOT RoadMaP program, the County Transformation initiative will help address critical maintenance backlogs across the state.

I must stress that our attempts to preserve funding in the Motor License Fund for roads and bridges does not mean we do not support proper funding for state police. State police provide a critical role in maintaining the safety of our network, and we count on their services for ongoing enforcement to keep drivers and our workers safe.

Increasingly, the demands to provide municipal-level services have added to the state police's cost burden, and that is why Governor Wolf proposed a reasonable \$25 per capita fee to offset that. Revenue from the fee will help us maintain the plans I have outlined for dealing with the continued backlog of maintenance, especially on rural lower volume roads.

House Democratic Policy Committee

Charging Municipalities for Patrol Services

March 27, 2017

Good afternoon, Chairman Sturla and members of the Committee.

My name is Marita Kelley. I am the Deputy Executive Director of the Governor's Center for Local Government Services for the Department of Community and Economic Development. Thank you for the opportunity to be here today.

The idea of consolidating municipal police departments as a solution to numerous administrative and operational problems has been considered throughout the country (including PA) for decades. On its surface, the concept appears especially appropriate for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as there are more than 1,200 municipal police departments in the state. This is an exceptional number when compared to most other states which get along with 300 or 400.

This concept was both considered and operational in many parts of the country, dating back to the first half of the 20th century. In 1967, consolidation of local police services was a major recommendation of a report by the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice titled, "The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society".

In 1973, the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals recommended the consolidation of police departments of less than 10 full-time sworn officers. Two years later, in December 1975, Pennsylvania adopted as one of its many standards and goals for the improvement of police services in the Commonwealth, Standard 6.4, which deals with

police consolidation. Standard 6.4, states in part “where appropriate to do so, police departments should consolidate for improved efficiency or effectiveness, but in no case should an individual department member lose salary or status as a result of such consolidation.” The standard further indicates in its text that every local government and every local police department should study the possibilities of combined and contracted police services and, where appropriate, implement such services.

Without regard to the support for police consolidation just discussed, elected officials in Pennsylvania are seriously considering this approach to solving many of the problems associated with providing municipal police services. Continuously rising costs and increasing complexity force municipal officials to consider other methods of providing police services at a higher level of efficiency. A reduction in funding at the federal and state level has placed additional pressure on elected officials to scrutinize all the services they provide, including law enforcement. Currently, approximately half of municipalities have no local coverage and elect to use the Pennsylvania State Police as their primary police force, while 67 percent have either part-time or no local coverage. As of January 2017, there are 38 regional police agencies in Pennsylvania, most of them developed in the past 10 years. The regional departments represent 24 counties, 123 municipalities comprised of 61 boroughs, 62 townships, and 2 school districts. They employ 597 full-time police officers and 130 part-time police officers serving a population of over 600,000 individuals. A listing of those police agencies and participating municipalities are included.

There are several alternative methods of providing police services. They are:

- Traditional;

- Centralized support services/decentralized patrol;
- Contracted police services; or
- Consolidated police services

Consolidation of police services requires the abolishment of political subdivision boundaries for police services and the unification of existing police departments into one regional police department. The distinctive characteristic of this method of policing is the operation of the police department outside the direct control of any one single municipality. The police department is responsible to a policy board or police commission consisting of primarily elected officials from each participating municipality. This board appoints the chief, evaluates the chief's performance, sets policies and adopts the budget.

There are several specific advantages to police consolidation which may or may not result depending upon the administrative policy established for the operation of the police department, the existing geographic and social conditions of the area, the organization and structure of the newly created police department and the procedures used in implementation. Basically, the advantages are the following:

- Improvement in the uniformity and consistency of police enforcement;
- Improvements in the coordination of law enforcement services;
- Improvements in the distribution and deployment of police personnel;
- Improvements in training and personnel efficiency;
- Improved police management and supervision;
- Reduced costs; and
- Improved career enhancement opportunities for police officers.

The first step of any process to determine the feasibility of and to develop a plan for a consolidated or regional police department should be to establish the oversight unit. This is accomplished by each municipal governing body appointing one or more of its members to a Regional Police Study Committee. Other persons, including persons from business, industry, government or other citizens may also be appointed to the committee, but at least one elected official should represent each government. This tends to give official sanction to the work of the committee and permits easier access to the police and municipal information that will be needed by the committee.

The basic tasks of the committee are normally to: (1) determine the specific procedure to be used in under taking the study; (2) gather the data and information that will be necessary from each municipality and its police department (if one exists); (3) analyze the data and information and from that analysis determine the feasibility of regional police service and what method of regional policing (centralized support services, contract or purchase of services, or consolidation of police departments) would be most appropriate; and (4) establish the procedure and timetable for implementation.

The Regional Police Study Committee serves in the capacity of an advisory board and participating municipalities are not bound by the findings or recommendations of the committee. Committee members should elect a chairperson and any other officers they find appropriate from their membership. The committee may seek the assistance and advice of persons knowledgeable in various aspects of regional police services. The assistance of the DCED's Governor's Center for Local Government Services is available upon request at no cost to the municipalities. The committee may also choose to review the operation of an existing regional police department to gain an understanding of how it works on a first hand basis.

The study committee should seek to build community consensus by opening their process to the public and seeking the maximum possible coverage in the local media. Questions about a regional police proposal should be heard and the answers made available to the public at large.

The Center's process for having a regional police feasibility study conducted begins with a Letter of Intent from the interested municipalities. Once the request is processed, a police peer consultant is assigned to help develop a regional feasibility study. A meeting is scheduled with the municipalities to:

- Introduce the police peer consultant;
- Outline the study process; and
- Have an Articles of Agreement signed by all parties.

After the initial meeting the peer consultant will visit the communities and conduct interviews with elected officials, the police, and community leaders to gather information to draft a feasibility report. Once the peer consultant has completed the draft report it is reviewed by Center staff and published. Center staff will then schedule a meeting with the participating municipalities to present the study and explain how the data was achieved. The Center will then encourage the participants to review the data and then meet among themselves to discuss and determine if there is any interest in moving forward with the implementation process.

The Center can provide assistance in follow-up meetings, revising data, and the implementation process. The Center will provide this entire process at no cost to the participating municipalities. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I would be happy to answer questions.

CONSOLIDATED POLICE REPORT 2017

Agency	Municipalities Served	Police Chief Executive	Number of Officers	Population Served	Square Mile Area	Officers per 1000 Population	Per Officer Cost	Per Capita Cost
Adams County Eastern Adams Regional Police Dept. 01-01-92	Oxford Twp New Oxford Boro	Francis Staab 110 North Berlin Ave. New Oxford, PA 17350 717-624-1614 x 203 Fax 717-624-1487 fstaab@adamsregionalpd.net	6 FT 4 FT [8]*	7,665	10.3	1.0	\$98,500	\$103
Allegheny County Northern Regional Police Dept. 01-01-69	Bradfordwoods Boro Marshall Twp Pine Twp Richland Twp	T. Robert Amann 230 Pearce Mill Road Wexford, PA 15090 724-625-3157 Fax 724-625-3258 ramann@nrpolice.com	34 FT	36,000	52.0	.9	\$147,226	\$139
Berks County Central Berks Regional Police Dept. 07-01-93	Lower Alsace Twp Mt. Penn Boro Contracts to St. Lawrence Boro	Raymond Serafin 2147 Peridomen Avenue Reading, PA 19606 610-779-1100 Fax 610-779-7135 rserafin@centralberks.org	14 FT	9,390	6.6	1.5	\$137,306	\$205
Berks County Northern Berks Regional Police Dept. 05-01-91 <small>Did Not Provide 2015, 2016, and 2017 Data</small>	Malden Creek Twp Ontelaunee Twp Leesport Boro	Scott W. Eaken 37 Ontelaunee Drive Reading, PA 19605 610-926-2999 Fax 610-926-0309 seaken@nhrpd.org	13 FT	13,000	30.8	1.0	\$159,940	\$160
Berks County Western Berks Regional Police Dept. 01-01-10	Robesonla Boro Wernersville Boro	William Schlichter 100 N. Reber Street Wernersville, PA 19565 610-678-2835 wschlichter@WBRPD.org	5 FT 7 FT [8.5]*	4,528	1.5	1.9	\$78,891	\$148
Bucks County Central Bucks Regional Police Dept. 01-01-14	Doylestown Boro New Britain Boro Chalfont Boro	James Donnelly 57 W. Court Street Doylestown, PA 18901 215-345-4143 Fax 215-345-6373 jdonnelly@cbcrpd.net	26 FT 4 FT [28]*	15,541	5.1	1.8	\$174,642	\$315
Bucks County Pennridge Regional Police Dept. 01-01-92	E. Rockhill Twp W. Rockhill Twp	Rodney Blake 200 Ridge Road Sellersville, PA 18960 215-257-5104 Fax 215-257-9324 rblake@penridgepd.org	10 FT 3 FT [11.5]*	10,962	29.3	1.0	\$184,094	\$185
Butler County Evans City/Seven Fields Regional Police Dept. 01-01-15	Evans City Boro Seven Fields Boro	Joseph McCombs 204 B South Jackson Street Evans City, PA 16033 724-538-8055 jmccombs@ecsfregionalpd.org	3 FT 9 FT [7.5]*	4,806	2.0	1.6	\$98,338	\$153
Cambria County West Hills Regional Police Dept. 01-01-78	Brownstown Boro Southmont Boro Westmont Boro Lower Yoder Twp	Michael W. Lose 1000 Luzerne Street Johnstown, PA 15905 814-255-4145 Fax 814-255-7443 westhillspolice@atlanticbnn.net	11 FT 8 FT [15]*	11,779	19.9	1.3	\$81,751	\$104
Chester County Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Dept. 12-21-1981	Westtown Twp E. Goshen Twp Contract to Thornbury Twp	Brenda Bernot 1041 Wilmington Pike West Chester, PA 19382 610-692-9600 x 206 Fax 610-692-2094 BBernot@westtownpolice.org	31 FT 12 FT [37]*	32,269	22.6	1.1	\$200,785	\$230
Chester County Southern Chester County Regional Police Dept. 01-01-2017	New Garden Township West Grove Boro	Gerald R. Simpson 8934 Gap Newport Pike Landenberg, PA 19350 610-268-2907, ext. 105 GSimpson@scrcpd.org	15 FT 8 FT [19]*	15,000	17.0	1.3	\$131,579	\$167
Clearfield County Morris Cooper Regional Police Dept. 01-06-75 <small>Did Not Provide 2015, 2016, and 2017 Data</small>	Morris Twp Cooper Twp	Lt. Todd Lombardo (OIC) P.O. Box 186 Allport, PA 16821 814-342-5621 Fax 814-342-5810 mcrpd@comcast.net	1 FT	5,794	60.1	.17	\$104,009	\$18
Columbia County Orangeville Area Police Dept. 04-01-03	Orange Twp Orangeville Boro	Steven R. Rothermel 301 Mill Street P.O. Box 192 Orangeville, PA 17859 570-683-5372 Fax 570-683-5915 ovpd@pa.metrocast.net	1 FT 2 FT [2]*	1,700	13.4	1.5	\$51,623	\$61

Agency	Municipalities Served	Police Chief Executive	Number of Officers	Population Served	Square Mile Area	Officers per 1000 Population	Per Officer Cost	Per Citizen Cost
Crawford County Conneaut Lake Regional Police Dept 10-01-95	Conneaut Lake Boro Sadsbury Twp	Todd Pfeifer 9878 State Highway 285 Conneaut Lake, PA 16316 814-382-4364 Fax 814-382-4365 tpfeifer@connetinternet.net	3 FT 4 FT [5.0]*	3,600	24.7	1.4	\$70,760	\$98
Cumberland County West Shore Regional Police Dept. 01-01-95	Lemoyne Boro Wormleysburg Boro	Michael L. Hope 510 Herman Avenue Lemoyne, PA 17043 717-737-8734 mhope@wsrpd.org	12 FT	7,623	3.3	1.6	\$179,835	\$283
Fayette County Southwest Regional Police Dept. 11-03-03	Belle Vernon Boro Newell Boro Coal Center Boro Point Marion Boro Neo-Solutions, Inc.	John D. Hartman 10 Main Street Belle Vernon, PA 15012 724-929-8484 Fax 724-929-6523 jhartman@swrpd.us	3 FT 12 FT [9]*	3,055	1.6	2.9	\$35,087	\$103
Greene County Greene County Regional Police Dept. 01-01-2017	Morris Twp Perry Twp Wayne Twp Contracts to Morris Twp - Washington County	Michael R. Natale P.O. Box 36 1713 Browns Creek Road Nineveh, PA 15353 724-428-3009 chief@gcrpd.org	2 FT 3 FT [3.5]*	5,056	134.0	.7	\$56,321	\$39
Lancaster County Northern Lancaster County Regional Police Dept. 01-01-12	Clay Twp Penn Twp Warwick Twp	David Steffen 860 Durlach Road Stevens, PA 17578 717-733-0965 dsteffend@nlcrpd.org	27 FT	35,723	72.0	.8	\$140,434	\$106
Lancaster County Northwest Lancaster County Regional Police Dept. 10-01-03	West Donegal Twp Mount Joy Twp	Mark Mayberry 155 Merts Drive Elizabethtown, PA 17022 717-367-8481 Fax 717-367-3382 MayberryM@police.co.lancaster.pa.us	17 FT 5 FT [19.5]*	18,000	48.0	1.1	\$161,313	\$175
Lancaster County Susquehanna Regional Police Dept. 07-01-96	Conoy Twp East Donegal Twp Marietta Boro	Charles E. Haugh 188 Rock Point Road Marietta, PA 17547 717-426-1164 Fax 717-426-2001 haughe@police.co.lancaster.pa.us	15 FT 2 FT [16]*	13,700	45.0	1.1	\$136,177	\$159
Lancaster County Southern Regional Police Dept. 01-01-63	Pequea Twp Conestoga Twp	John Michener 3284 Main Street Box 254 Conestoga, PA 17516 717-872-0352 Fax 717-872-7341 michenej@police.co.lancaster.pa.us	7 FT 4 FT [9.0]*	8,516	28.3	1.1	\$109,529	\$116
Lycoming County Tiadaghton Valley Regional Police Dept. 01-01-10	Jersey Shore Boro Porter Twp Contracts to: Nippinose Twp Platt Twp	Nathan DeRemer 129 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Jersey Shore, PA 17740 570-398-2146 Fax 570-398-3470 nderemer.tvrpd@gmail.com	10 FT 1 FT [10.5]*	8,103	30.5	1.3	\$93,202	\$121
McKean County Otto Eldred Regional Police Department 09-01-04	Eldred Boro Otto Twp	Donald Nies P.O. Box 270 3 Bennett Street Eldred, PA 16731 814-225-4415 ottoeldredregionalpolice@gmail.com	4 FT [2.0]*	2,600	45.0	.8	\$16,200	\$12
Mifflin County Mifflin County Regional Police Dept. 08-30-93	Brown Twp Burnham Boro Derry Twp Union Twp	Scott A. Mauery 13225 Ferguson Valley Road Yeagertown, PA 17099 717-248-1900 x628 Fax 717-248-1699 smauery@mcrrpd.org	13 FT	16,480	91.0	.7	\$123,375	\$97
Monroe County Pocono Mountain Regional Police Dept. 06-13-94	Tobyhanna Twp Mt. Pocono Boro Tunkhannock Twp Coolbaugh Twp Barrett Twp	Chris Wagner 2454 Route 940 Pocono Summit, PA 18346 570-895-2400 Fax 570-895-2450 cwagner@pmrpd.com	43 FT	43,302	228.0	1.0	\$156,799	\$156
Monroe County Stroud Area Regional Police Dept. 05-01-00	East Stroudsburg Boro Stroudsburg Boro Stroud Twp	John M. Ward 100 Day Street East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 570-421-6800 Fax 570-421-5979 jward@sarpd.com	52 FT 4 FT [54]*	34,620	39.1	1.5	\$145,625	\$227
Montgomery County Upper Perki Police Department 02-04-80	East Greenville Boro Pennsburg Boro	Michael S. Devlin 88 West 6th Street Pennsburg, PA. 18073 215-679-8203 Fax 215-679-3919 chmddevlin@upperperkipd.org	9 FT	7,000	1.3	1.3	\$161,718	\$208

Agency	Municipalities Served	Police Chief Executive	Number of Officers	Population Served	Sq. Ft. Miles Area	Officer Per 1,000 Population	12m. Off. Cost	Per Cap. Cost
Northampton County Colonial Regional Police Dept. 10-01-95	Bath Boro Hanover Twp Lower Nazareth Twp	Roy D. Seiple 248 Brodhead Rd., Suite 1 Bethlehem, PA 18017 610-861-4820 Fax 610-861-4829 chief@colonialregionalpd.org	25 FT	20,059	22.5	1.2	\$148,760	\$185
Northampton County Slate Belt Regional Police Dept. 04-01-15	Plainfield Twp Wind Gap Boro Pen Argyl Boro	David A. Mettin 6292 Sullivan Trail Nazareth, PA 18064 610-759-8517 Fax 610-759-8523 dmettin@statebeltpd.com	21 FT	12,442	28.0	1.8	\$127,894	\$216
Pike County Eastern Pike Regional 01-07-08	Matamoras Boro Westfall Twp	Chad D. Stewart 10 Ave 1 Matamoras, PA 18336 570-491-4040 Fax 570-491-4099 cstewart@eprpd.org	10 FT 4 FT [12]*	4,792	31.8	2.5	\$84,618	\$212
Union County Buffalo Valley Regional Police Dept. 02-06-12	East Buffalo Twp Lewisburg Boro	Paul Yost 1610 Industrial Boulevard Suite 500 Lewisburg, PA 17837 570-524-4302 Fax 570-524-4128 PYost@bvrpd.org	15 FT 5 FT [17.5]*	14,200	17.4	1.2	\$169,580	\$209
Washington County RESA Regional Police Dept. 09-22-90 <small>Did Not Provide 2015, 2016, and 2017 Data</small>	Allenport Boro Dunlevy Boro Eico Boro Roscoe Boro Stockdale Boro	Mark Stuart 402 Locust Avenue P.O. Box 300 Stockdale, PA 15483 724-938-7773 Fax 724-938-7773 resa@zcominternet.net	11 FT [5.5]*	3,000	3.4	1.8	\$18,182	\$33
Washington County Charleroi Regional Police Dept. 04-01-12	Charleroi Boro North Charleroi Boro Speers Boro Contract to: Twilight Boro Charleroi Area School District	Eric Porter 338 Fallowfield Avenue Charleroi, PA 15022 724-483-8010 Fax 724-483-1270 porter@charleroi.org	8 FT 12 FT [14]*	7,754	3.2	1.8	\$67,541	\$122
York County Northeastern Regional Police Dept. 01-01-83	East Manchester Twp Manchester Boro Mount Wolf Boro	Bryan Rizzo 5570 Board Road Mt. Wolf, PA 17349 717-266-6195 x 101 Fax 717-268-8645 chief@neregionalpd.us	12 FT	11,420	17.5	1.1	\$141,619	\$149
York County York Area Regional Police Dept. 06-29-00	York Twp Windsor Twp Contracts to: Ballastown Boro Felton Boro Jacobus Boro Windsor Boro Yoe Boro	Timothy Damon 33 Oak Street York, PA 17402 717-741-1259 Fax 717-741-5209 tdamon@yand.org	44 FT	55,010	57.0	.8	\$178,105	\$142
York County Southern Regional Police Dept. 01-01-92	New Freedom Boro Shrewsbury Boro Glenn Rock Boro Stewartstown Boro Contracts to: Railroad Boro Southern York County School District Wintersdown Boro	James S. Boddington 47 E. High Street New Freedom, PA 17349 717-235-3944 Fax 717-235-1609 jboddington@srpd.us	14 FT 1 FT [14.5]*	11,000	63.0	1.3	\$136,010	\$179
York County Southwestern Regional Police Dept. 07-01-02	Heidelberg Twp Manheim Twp North Codorus Twp Spring Grove Boro	Gregory M. Bean 6115 Thoman Drive Spring Grove, PA 17362 717-225-1333 x 101 Fax 717-225-0635 gbean@swrpd.org	14 FT	18,163	69.8	.8	\$146,382	\$113
York County Northern York County Regional Police Dept. 09-01-72	Conewago Twp Dover Boro Dover Twp Franklin Twp Jackson Twp Manchester Twp North York Boro Paradise Twp	Mark Bentzel 1445 E. Canal Road Dover, PA 17315-2798 717-292-0542 Fax 717-292-0543 dwales@nycrpd.org	51 FT	66,372	150.0	.8	\$164,581	\$126

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE

OPENING STATEMENT TO HOUSE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

MARCH 27, 2017



Good afternoon, Chairman Sturla and members of the House Democratic Policy Committee. I am Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Bucar, Deputy Commissioner of Staff of the Pennsylvania State Police.

The PSP is the tenth largest police agency in the nation and the third largest internationally accredited law enforcement agency in the world. Currently, we patrol 82 percent of the land area of the Commonwealth and 60 percent of the highways, including all of our interstates. The PSP provides either full-time (approximately 1290) or part-time (approximately 410) police protection to over 1,700 municipalities.

PSP is legislatively mandated to provide police service to those municipalities that do not have their own police department, as well as to those municipalities that **DO HAVE** their own police department but request our services or assistance. In addition, we also deliver specialized services to municipal police agencies at no cost.

PSP delivers a variety of services to all municipalities across the Commonwealth upon request. Our Aviation Section provides aerial support; our Western and Eastern Special Emergency Response Teams provide tactical support; our Hazardous Device and Explosives Section provides explosive and suspicious package support; our Clandestine Laboratory Response Teams provide evidence collection and clean up support for illicit drug labs; our DNA and six regional laboratories provide laboratory support; and, our Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center (PaCIC) provides vital information to our public safety partners to keep police officers and citizens safe, as well as aiding in protecting critical infrastructure and key resources. The Center is staffed by 44 analysts and supervisors, along with representatives from a host of state and federal law enforcement agencies and all-hazard partners, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security.

In 2016, PaCIC received nearly 1,600 tips associated with a wide variety of topics including those associated with suspected terrorism, drug dealers, and the location of fugitives. In addition, PaCIC received 37,490 requests for information from federal, state, and local agencies and in response to those requests, our analysts completed over 57,000 products for these agencies, enhancing and furthering their investigations.

PSP assisted municipal police through the following incidents in 2016:

- 13,007 Request Assist-Other Police (Includes traffic control, crash investigation, Presidential escorts, or criminal investigations).
- 15,621 Request Assist-Other Agency (Assisting a governmental agency in some manner; community ambulance companies, county coroners, etc.).
- 101,067 incidents were handled by PSP which were not in our primary patrol areas. These incidents could be located within either full-or part-time municipal police jurisdictions.
- 40 homicides were investigated at request of municipal police.
- 24 shooting incidents involving municipal law enforcement officers were investigated.
- SERT responded to 23 municipal police requests for assistance.
- CLRT responded to 139 municipal police requests.
- Approximately 70% of PSP laboratory services annually are devoted to municipal police departments.

I want to thank the Committee for this opportunity to testify before you on this important matter. At your convenience, I am willing to address any questions you may have.

Testimony provided by:

Joseph Kovel, President
Pennsylvania State Troopers Association (PSTA)

Respectfully submitted to:

Pennsylvania House Democratic Policy Committee
March 27, 2017

Chairman Sturla members of the committee. Thank you for providing the Pa. State Troopers Association (PSTA) with the opportunity to present comments relative to funding of Pennsylvania State Police operations. The men and women who serve our Commonwealth as Troopers daily face challenges in performing their duties.

While many will think first of the public and personal safety challenges our members face at any given day or hour, and that is clearly of our utmost concern and focus, my members face many other challenges we often fail to recognize or give thought. I am speaking of the availability of resources and personnel that enable us to perform our job.

Pennsylvania State Troopers perform their duties to the best of their ability, but constrained resources challenge their ability to maintain the standards expected of them. Whether it is the lack of available personnel to assist them, the lack of capacity within our labs, a deficient radio system, more municipalities to cover as local police departments are discontinued, the challenge of keeping up with rapidly changing technology, or the challenges of recruiting prospective new Troopers in today's social environment, all impact and challenge my members to adequately perform their duties. To address these recurring issues requires a commitment of financial resources that challenges you as legislators to balance against all the other requests and demands that come to your attention during budget considerations.

Serving as the primary law enforcement agency for over 85% of the state's geographical territory, providing investigative services and lab analysis for nearly every other police department in the state, performing fire investigations, travel safety enforcement on all of our highways and roadways, and truck safety inspections require a significant investment of resources. Just look at the two attachments which show the services the Pennsylvania State Police makes available to **ALL** 67 counties and the additional duties that have been assigned to our department since 2002. That is why every year during budget considerations our association urges adequate funding of our department operations and to address our deficient complement level.

I applaud the General Assembly and the Governor with recognizing this critical need and giving high priority to sustaining adequate funding for our departmental operations. This has been evidenced not only by the annual appropriations directed to the Pennsylvania State Police, along with needed increases, but also with the numerous bills which seek to identify or establish a dedicated funding source for departmental operations and now the Governor's proposal of a \$25 per capita annual fee for the residents of municipalities that rely exclusively on the state police for their law enforcement needs..

In fact, over five years ago, the General Assembly passed and the Governor signed into law SB 237, which became Act 124 of 2012. This act directed that revenues generated from citations issued by

troopers within municipalities that did not provide at least 40 hours per week of local law enforcement, be directed to a restricted account for funding cadet classes. This was a hard fought win for directing funds to help offset costs of on-going state police operations and the need to fill our cadet classes.

Unfortunately the very next year, the General Assembly, within the Fiscal Code, rescinded the provisions of Act 124 and redirected most of those funds to the General Fund, presumably to help balance the General Fund, and once again increased the allocation from the Motor License Fund to help address the fiscal needs required to sustain adequate PSP operations.

As the President of the PSTA, my concern is the reliability of obtaining the funds necessary to meet our obligations to provide for the safety of your constituents and my members. As evidenced by what happened to the funding in Act 124, any shift from the current funding structure gives me great pause.

Clearly, the General Assembly determines the funding mix for all state agencies. For a multitude of reasons, over time the share of PSP operations funded from the Motor License Fund has gradually increased, so that today the Motor License Fund provides nearly 75% of our operational budget. However, given the recent gas tax increase, the percentage of the Motor License Fund directed to sustain PSP operations has actually reduced over the past several years. The \$755 million in the 15/16 Motor License Fund for PSP operations represents 16.95% of the total MLF. In the 13/14 fiscal year, the \$621.9 million directed to PSP represented 17.62% of the total MLF.

Recently Sec. Richards has announced the creation of the PA Road Maintenance and Preservation (Road MAP) program within Penn DOT. She has stated that the phase down of funding for state police from the motor license fund would allow Penn DOT to direct an additional \$2.1 billion over the next ten years for roadway infrastructure. That is a significant enticement for holding firm on the phase down of state police funding from the Motor License Fund.

While I understand the interest in limiting or eliminating the funds allocated from the Motor License Fund to PSP operations, in order to free up more funds for transportation projects, the issue really comes down to how do you replace those funds within the General Fund?

As we have clearly seen over the past several years, finding new revenues for the General Fund has been a daunting task for the General Assembly and Governor. Shifting the need to fund an additional \$300 million or more within the General Fund, which would be required to meet the reduced share from the Motor License Fund, will only further exasperate the challenge of identifying new revenue streams.

Further, a new revenue stream utilized to fund PSP operations would need to be sustainable, predictable, and likely to increase.

The Governor's proposed \$25 service fee would be predicable and sustainable, provided municipalities continued to rely on the state police for their policing needs, but I question how likely it would be to increase over the coming years.

Since the municipal service fee was proposed I have heard the arguments for and against the proposal. At this time I would not venture a guess as to how likely or unlikely the legislature is to imposing such a fee.

The fact of the matter, today PSP provides police services to more municipalities than they did a year ago. We receive more requests for assistance from local police departments, we are challenged with

greater intelligence gathering to help prevent acts of terrorism, we must keep pace with new technologies, we must meet ever increasing duties such as background checks, DNA checks, and gun checks. In responding to your constituents concerns for greater public safety our department is frequently tasked with new duties through acts of the legislature. There is no question that the \$25 proposed fee is a hell of a bargain for all that is made available to those depending on us for their safety.

In light of the additional duties that have been imposed upon the state police ***I propose that the Legislative Budget and Finance Office be tasked to determine what is the appropriate staffing level needed to properly fulfill the mission asked of the State Police today.*** The last such review was completed in 2001, 16 years ago.

Much has changed in terms of protecting our communities, roadways, and highways since that time. Before you determine what amount of funding should or should not come from the Motor License Fund, or the General Fund, shouldn't we first determine if the resources and staffing we are currently committing to public and highway safety is adequate and appropriate before limiting a possible funding source, especially if greater resources are needed to insure highway and personal safety?

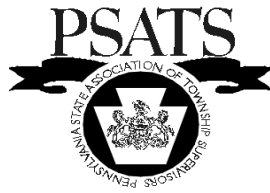
Capping or eliminating Motor License Fund revenues from offsetting a portion of PSP operational and equipment costs will only increase the pressure on you and your colleagues to find a new reliable revenue source. That is why changing the current funding mix would cause me great concern for the ability of my members to sustain the level of service they provide today, much less meet the challenges of tomorrow.

I would welcome the opportunity to participate on any working group that is assembled to identify alternative revenue streams for funding State Police operations. Obviously multiple sources of new revenues are likely needed as opposed to one massive source. I would call your attention to SB 172 which would authorize photo speed enforcement in highway construction zones. While such an initiative must be focused primarily on enhanced driver and worker safety, the bill as currently written would direct a significant portion of the revenues collected from those drivers violating the construction zone speed limits towards state police operations by funding cadet classes and increased enforcement in unprotected work zones.

Another viable option would be HB 113, introduced by Rep. Harper that would enact an extraction tax on Marcellus shale production and direct 50% of those revenues to the General Operations budget of the State Police, since the majority of the Marcellus shale region relies upon the State Police for the public safety enforcement. The remaining 50% would go towards paying down the accrued liability in the pension program.

Clearly, identifying a predictable and sustainable alternative funding source or sources will prove quite challenging. If such funding was readily available it seems likely to have already been tapped.

Thank you for your attention to this issue. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



**TESTIMONY BY
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**

**BEFORE THE
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

ON

PRESENTED BY

**ANDREW J. BONI
PSATS ASSISTANT SECRETARY-TREASURER**

MARCH 27, 2017

PITTSBURGH, PA

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Chairman Sturla and members of the House Democratic Policy Committee:

Good afternoon. My name is Andrew J. Boni and I am Assistant Secretary-Treasurer for the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors and a township supervisor in Perry Township, Fayette County. With me today is Elam M. Herr, assistant executive director for PSATS. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of Pennsylvania's 1,454 townships.

Townships comprise 95 percent of the commonwealth's land area and are home to more than 5.1 million Pennsylvanians, nearly 42 percent of all state residents. These townships are very diverse, ranging from rural, agricultural communities with fewer than 200 residents to more urban, populated communities with populations approaching 70,000 residents.

The governor's proposal would mandate that every municipality pay an annual tax to the Commonwealth of \$25 per resident if it relies on the Pennsylvania State Police as the primary provider for law enforcement services. This new state tax would force over 2.5 million residents to pay twice for the basic services that they currently receive from the State Police. And while the governor's proposal is for \$25 per person, it is reasonable to assume that the state police tax will go up in future years. Where will it stop? At \$100 per person, \$200 per person, or somewhere in between? Just look at the Motor License Fund transfer, which started at \$150 million the first year and grew to \$802 million for the 2016-17 budget year.

While the Commonwealth, in recent years has previously shifted state financial responsibilities to local government from other state agencies, this new state tax on municipalities would be the first of its kind. Local government routinely partners with the state to provide services to our mutual residents. But this new tax would change this relationship and open the possibility that the state will simply see municipalities as another bank account to be tapped when the state needs revenue. What will be next? Is a tax on the use of the state crime labs or State Police helicopter in our future? Will DEP levy a tax to fund reviews of NPDES permits and Act 537 plans? Will PennDOT impose a tax on stormwater improvements to state roads? Will the Department of Agriculture charge local governments for restaurant inspections?

Municipalities do **NOT** have the ability to pass this new tax onto their residents through a per capita tax. The only per capita tax municipalities can levy is tapped at \$10 per adult resident, and due to sharing with the school district, it is limited to \$5 per adult resident for most municipalities. In addition, it is a difficult tax to collect. Since the new municipal police tax would be \$25 per resident, based on Census numbers, each affected municipality will need to come up with \$25 for every man, woman, child, inmate, and college student living in their community. And the only tool that municipalities have to raise the revenue to pay for this new tax is to increase the property tax.

In Perry Township, we would need to increase our property tax millage by more than a mill to pay for the police tax. This would double our current millage for no new or

improved services. In my experience, if you are going to double a tax, you better be prepared to explain to your residents what they are getting for their money. This tax won't bring new patrols to my township and it won't allow the PSP to enforce local ordinances.

If this new tax were enacted, townships in Fayette County alone would be responsible for a \$1.9 million state police tax bill. Currently, these townships bring in a combined total of \$2.5 million in real estate taxes annually. This means real estate taxes countywide would need to be increased by nearly 80 percent, with some townships having to more than double their current real estate tax rates just to pay for the bill.

The governor's police tax proposal is intended to raise revenues for the state's 2017-2018 budget. Municipalities have adopted their budgets for calendar year 2017 and tax bills have already been sent. Simply put, there is no way that that we could pay this tax in 2017. For my township, this tax is 10 percent of our 2017 budget and we simply cannot make that type of an adjustment mid-year. Municipalities would be forced to increase the property tax to pay for the new state police tax and the earliest the municipalities would have these revenues would be the end of the second quarter of 2018.

My township has researched local police protection and to put in place a full-time department is simply cost-prohibitive. I see the financial struggles of my neighboring borough to maintain part-time police protection for their 2 square miles. We continue to rely on troopers of the Pennsylvania State Police for a basic level of coverage responding to minimal calls with longer response times because they provide a professional level of service for our township.

Proponents of the state police tax proposal claim that residents and businesses in municipalities without local police and their residents are getting a "free ride," while those with municipal police are paying twice. This makes no sense. All residents of Pennsylvania are paying for the services of the Pennsylvania State Police through the current state tax structure, regardless of whether their municipality provides local police service or not.

The State Police do not enforce local ordinances. This means that the State Police do not enforce local parking restrictions, animal control complaints, or other similar incidents that normally fall under the purview of local police departments. While the State Police provide first-rate police protection, there are many services that they do not provide to municipalities without police.

How would the state police tax benefit those communities *with* local police protection? Frankly, there would be no benefit to those communities or their residents and no *reduction* of the significant costs that they face to provide local police service.

In fact, this may negatively impact communities with local police. First, if the state decides that municipalities are a good source of tax revenues, we should expect other creative taxes levied on all municipalities. Secondly, as this proposed tax is increased, it may force a

number of municipalities to provide local police protection. This will increase the amount of officers who will receive pensions, which will decrease the per unit value of state pension aid. Because police officers receive two credits each and this pot of money is fixed at \$250 million, it will decrease the amount of pension aid received by communities with police. Incidentally, Philadelphia alone received \$63 million in pension aid in 2016 for both police and non-police pension plans, 25 percent of the available pension aid, while Pittsburgh received \$18 million. All communities with local police will lose money from pension reimbursements

The proposal does not address the fact that the State Police provide services to communities with local police departments. Troopers regularly respond to assist local officers or are the secondary responders to various incidents. In addition, the State Police provide specialty services, such as lab analysis and the state fire marshal, to all municipalities. The difference is that communities providing local police protection are paying for broader local police coverage. For communities without their own police services, the State Police are the *only* responder; despite this, these communities are satisfied with the level of service that they receive.

As the State Police testified before you at the March 17 hearing, it is mandated to provide services and assistance to municipal police departments and provides a variety of services to all municipalities in Pennsylvania upon request. Their report provided information on the specialized services, from use of the state helicopter to evidence collection and clean-up support for illicit drug labs. They also provided details on assistance provided in 2016 to municipal police departments, which ranges from use of State Police laboratory services, to homicide investigations, to requests for assistance. It is clear that the State Police dedicates their professional resources to benefit all Pennsylvanians, at no additional cost to the municipality served, regardless of whether that municipality provides local police protection.

The administration claims that the state police tax proposal would generate an additional \$63 million a year for the Commonwealth. We must ask, what is the problem that we are trying to solve? Do the State Police need additional funding? Where is this funding going to go? Will it be earmarked for a special State Police account to provide services to these communities or just allocated to the state's General Fund?

We need to ensure that the State Police continues to have the resources it needs to provide top quality service to every resident in Pennsylvania. Yes, the state has diverted funds from the Motor License Fund to pay for the PSP. Did municipalities without local police do this or did the state come up with this creative funding mechanism that has grown out of control? The unfunded pension obligations of the Commonwealth are now in the billions. Again, did municipalities without police do this or did the state choose to provide these benefits without coming up with a sustainable way of paying for these costs? We need statewide solutions to solve these budgetary challenges.

We understand that the state has had funding difficulties. Municipalities have seen state funding disappear in recent years while the mandated obligations continue. DEP Sewage Facility Planning and Enforcement Grants have disappeared, Act 339 monies for

public sewer are no more, and state funding for training of sewage enforcement officers is gone. In addition, state funding for municipal police training has decreased in recent years.

We want to work towards real solutions. Instead of debating a state tax that we all know will increase, we need to discuss how we can adopt meaningful reforms to reduce the financial burdens on the communities – and their residents – that provide local police protection and remove barriers for those communities that would like to have local police. We need creative alternatives, such as Sen. Ward’s bill to allow municipalities to voluntarily contract with the PSP to pay for the use of one or more dedicated state troopers, which would not be part of the state complement.

Collective bargaining for police leads to exorbitant pension and healthcare benefits that are not financially sustainable. Defined benefit pensions are currently required for public safety employees, while defined contribution plans should be authorized as options for public safety employees, similar to non-uniform employees. Reforms are needed to provide communities with the tools to bring these unfunded mandates under control. We need to talk about tax reform so that communities can have options to pay for police services and not have to rely on overburdened middle-class taxpayers for all levels of local government.

In closing, the communities affected by the governor’s proposal have already deliberated over the prospect of forming their own police departments. For various reasons they have determined that it is in the best interest of their residents and the community at large to rely on the State Police for primary coverage. We believe that this decision needs to remain with municipalities and should not be forced by the state.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before you today. I will now attempt to answer any questions that you may have.

Public Hearing on State Police Fee For Municipalities Without Local a Police Force
University of Pittsburgh, William Pitt Union, Assembly Room
Monday, March 27, 2017 2:00 P.M.
Presentation of Thomas J. McElhone, Shaler Township Commissioner

Thank you for the opportunity to address the concerns of the residents of Shaler Township regarding the use of State Police to service municipalities that do not have their own local police protection. Let me state that Shaler Township favors a fee for State Police services to those municipalities that have no local police service. I will provide support for our belief a bit later.

Let me present a brief background of Shaler Township. Located just north of the City of Pittsburgh, it is a municipality of approximately 28,500 residents, of which nearly 30% are senior citizens. Shaler Township's 2017 operating budget is just under thirteen million dollars. Of that amount, slightly over four million dollars is budgeted strictly for police protection, around 32% of the operating budget. The cost of local police service in Shaler Township is \$146.36 per resident annually. The amount of monies received by Shaler Township from property taxes is approximately equal to the cost of police protection. The level of police protection is the choice of the residents.

Shaler Township is located in Allegheny County. Of the 131 municipalities located in Allegheny County, only two have no local police protection and rely on the State Police service. Both municipalities have only a few hundred residents, and both are located close to Interstate 79. Shaler Township is one of nineteen municipalities that comprise the North Hills Council of Governments. The populations of these municipalities range from 1,171 to 28,500. The cost per resident for local police services ranges from \$126.75 to \$291.00 per resident.

There are four basic types of police service, as listed here:

- Municipalities that provide their own police department. (Shaler Township)
- Municipalities that are partners in a regional police department. (Northern Regional Police Department)
- Municipalities that purchase police protection from a neighboring municipality. (Ohio Township)
- Municipalities that have no police department and rely on the State Police solely for their protection.

[MORE ON BACK]

In an article published by Kevin Zwick at: <http://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/11921702-74/police-state-township>, Mr Zwick states that the PA State Police estimate that it costs its agency nearly \$600 million for troopers to provide police services to places with no full time force. That amounts to \$234.00 per resident served. Mr. Zwick further stated that the State Police patrol budget is roughly \$673 million, of which \$78 million is spent on municipalities for part time service, and the remaining \$595 million is spent on municipalities without a police department. The annual State Police budget is \$1.2 billion, and since 2013, Pennsylvania has funneled about \$500 million a year to the agency from fees and taxes that were originally to be spent for bridge and road repairs. Monies meant to maintain infrastructure are now being used to patrol municipalities without police departments. About 80% of Pennsylvanians pay for local police and state police.

Included in my comments is a schedule that lists the 27 highest offenders not paying for PA State Police protection. The largest populated area, Hempfield Township in Westmoreland County has a population of over 43,000, with a median income over \$58,000 down to Fairview Township in Erie County with a population over 10,000 and a median income over \$72,000. Two municipalities on the list are West Bradford Township in Chester County with a median income over \$104,000 and Skippack Township, in Montgomery County with a median income over \$107,000. Some of the municipalities on the list have Trooper Stations located in their municipality.

It is understood that many municipalities are too small to afford local police protection and must rely on the PA State Police for protection. Because they cannot afford their own local police does not mean that they should be absolved from paying for police protection, especially as it becomes an additional burden to those who do provide their own police force. Data has shown that the cost that 80% of Pennsylvania residents who pay for local and state protection range from over \$100 to \$300 per resident for local police service. A \$25.00 fee per resident for police service is not an onerous amount considering the actual costs incurred by the State Police and those who subsidize the non-payers.

When I took office as a Township Commissioner, I swore to uphold the United States and Pennsylvania Constitutions, along with many other responsibilities. One of those is a fiduciary responsibility to the residents that I serve in Shaler Township. Having Shaler Township residents pay through their taxes, for other municipalities police service is betrays my fiduciary responsibility to the residents.

Thank you.

Tom McElhone
Shaler Township Commissioner

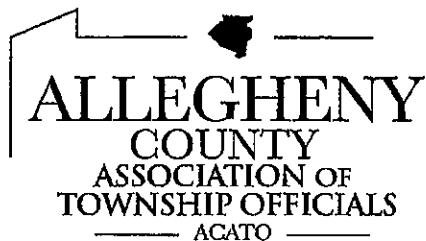
**Public Hearing on State Police Fee for Municipalities without a Local Police Force
University of Pittsburgh, William Pitt Union, Assembly Room
Monday, March 27, 2017 at 2:00 PM
Presentation of Timothy J. Rogers, Manager, Shaler Township**

I also wish to thank you for the opportunity to address the concerns and voice our support for a fee for State Police services to those municipalities that have no local police services. I will be brief as I will be echoing support for the previous presenters.

A review of the communities in the North Hills demonstrates that per capita fees range from a low of \$126.75 as represented by the communities that make up the Northern Regional Police Department and a high of \$291.00 per capita. For one of our municipalities, the local police department budget includes from a low of \$528,000 to a high of \$5,205,600.00. The Township of Shaler's annual costs for 28,500 residents is \$4,172,000.00 for a per capita cost of \$146.36.

In an editorial quote from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, "critics of Governor Wolf's proposal might want to quit complaining and ante up because \$25.00 per head is more than a deal, it's a steal. About half of the state's municipalities have their own police forces, meaning residents in those communities pay taxes that support local law enforcement as well as state taxes that subsidize state police service for boroughs and townships without their own departments. That's far from fair." The residents of the Township of Shaler and all those residents that bare the burden of their own Police Department are paying not only to cover the public safety services of their own communities but are also compensating those communities that do not have this service. In essence, paying double for service. It is time to bring more fairness to the financing of police services.

I respectfully request that our legislators deal with the issue of equity and begin to provide a fee for services rendered by the Commonwealth to communities who are advantaged by the support of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's State Police with a long-range plan to fully compensate the state police for these services.



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March 17, 2017

Jim Dawes, Executive Director
House Democratic Policy Committee
414 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Via Email: jdawes@pahouse.net

Dear Mr. Dawes,

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held on March 16, 2017, the Allegheny County Association of Township Officials approved the following resolution:

ACATO Resolution 2-2017

WHEREAS, the Townships of the 2nd class comprising the Allegheny County Association of Township Officials endeavor to provide essential services to the residents of their community, and

WHEREAS, public safety is of critical importance to local government stakeholders, and

WHEREAS, the officials comprising these municipalities have consistently invested financial, physical and human resources in an effort to ensure high quality local policing services are provided to township residents.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allegheny County Association of Township Officials supports the assessment of reasonable fees on municipalities utilizing the Pennsylvania State Police as the sole law enforcement provider, to ensure that costs for consumption and use of Commonwealth resources are distributed in a fair and equitable manner.

Please feel free to share this communication as you prepare for the Committee Hearing in Pittsburgh on Monday, March 27.

Sincerely,

Jason Davidek
Secretary/Treasurer