

The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs
on “Per Capita Fee for State Police Coverage”
House Transportation Committee, May 11, 2017

Good Morning members of the House Transportation Committee. My name is Ed Troxell and I serve the PSAB as the Director of Government Affairs. Thank you for allowing me to present comments on the per capita fee for PSP services before you today. I will offer very brief comments and observations on the three house bills on your agenda this morning as well as the newly adopted **PSAB Resolution** from **2017-3** which “*supports legislation charging municipalities over 4,000 in population utilizing state police service a per person fee*”.

House Bill 822 – regarding the 10K population threshold it is unclear why the population density of 160 persons per square mile follows in the language as well. As our members discussed this language this week they noted that such a density requirement would be adverse to their interest and resolution.

House Bill 860 – seems a penalizing to those communities who may have been unable to support and afford their own local police services. It would also more or less place them at the will of PSP when contracting services.

House Bill 959 – this bill seems the most reasonable with elements PSAB support. While we maintain the need of the 4K population threshold, we are encouraged that the bill has language for reimbursement to local police forces that are mobilized in lieu of PSP due to service area and response times.

PSAB is grateful to the House Transportation committee for this opportunity to offer our observations and I would summarize our position with a support for a PSP per capita fee, maintaining a 4K pop. threshold. We further add that in the past we have worked with a variety of proposals which sought to create dedicated millage for local police services as well as formulating reimbursement schedules for municipal police services provided beyond borders of municipalities. In all, PSAB looks forward to working with the legislature, the PSP and the Secretary of the budget to address this critical and timely issue, thank you and I look forward to your questions.