



**House Majority Transportation Committee Written Testimony
Pennsylvania Economy League
May 11, 2017**

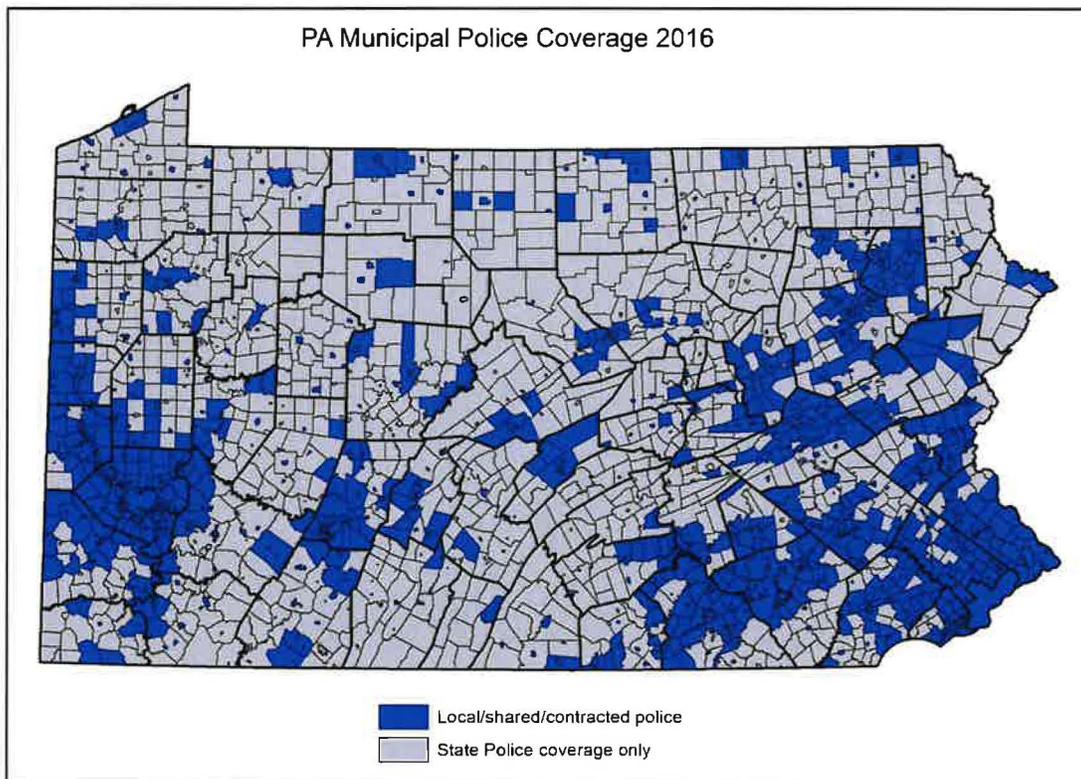
Pennsylvania State Police Providing Local Police Service

Background

As of 2016, Pennsylvania had 1,270 municipalities, with a combined population of 2.5 million people that do not have locally funded police service and instead rely on the state police. Of those municipalities, 76 have populations above 5,000, and 3 actually have populations above 20,000.

Type of police service	Municipalities	Population
Own Municipal Police Force	967	9,266,518
Police Service contracted from another municipality	202	305,485
Regional Police Service	121	573,636
State Police coverage only	1,270	2,508,360

Population	Municipalities without local police
5,000-9,999	76
10,000-14,999	16
15,000-19,999	8
20,000+	3



Cost to Taxpayers

In 2017, the state police estimated that the cost to provide police service in municipalities without locally funded police was \$600 million, fully one half of the \$1.2 billion state police budget. Across the 2.5 million people residing in no-police municipalities, that \$600 million represents a cost of \$240 per person per year. However the expense of additional state police coverage is paid for by all Pennsylvanians, at a cost of roughly \$50 per person per year. This means that municipalities that rely on state police receive a \$190/person annual subsidy, while residents of municipalities that provide local police service pay \$50/person (equivalent to a 21% surcharge) on top of the average of \$230/person that they already pay for their own police coverage.

It costs \$600 million per year for the PA State Police to provide extra service to municipalities without their own local police.

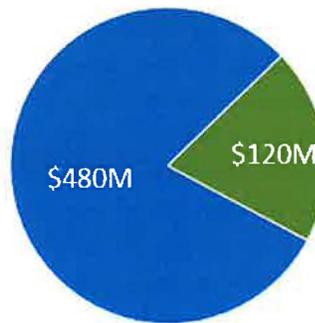
10 million people live in communities with local police

They pay on average **\$230 per person** for local police coverage

They also pay **\$48 per person** for the extra state police coverage

This is equivalent to **21% surcharge** on local police service

\$600M



2.5 million people live in communities w/out local police

The true cost of extra state police coverage is **\$240/person**

They pay **\$48/person** for extra state police coverage

This represents an **80% discount** on coverage, paid for by the rest of Pennsylvania's residents