



Fraternal Order of Police Pennsylvania State Lodge

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April 10, 2023

Honorable Members of the House Transportation Committee:

On behalf of over 40,000 active and retired Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Officers, the Fraternal Order of Police, Pennsylvania State Lodge, offers their support in a dedicated funding source for the Pennsylvania State Police. As you are no doubt aware, all police agencies in the Commonwealth have faced unprecedented challenges in the recruitment and retention of officers. The reality is that those tasks are inexorably intertwined with agency funding. Including at the state level.

For many years, the Pennsylvania State Police has relied upon the Motor License Fund for a substantial portion of its funding formula. Naturally, this creates competition for those dollars between law enforcement and our road infrastructure needs. This competition does not advance the interests of either and ultimately it is the taxpayers that are affected.

For this reason, the Governor has proposed to hasten the end of using MLF dollars to fund State Police operations and instead create a dedicated fund for that purpose. The Pennsylvania State Lodge supports this initiative, so long as adequate replacement funding streams are tied to such a fund.

However the General Assembly resolves this issue, it is imperative that a dedicated funding source for the Pennsylvania State Police be found that is both sustainable and can grow with the increase demands that are sure to be placed on that agency over time. We ask that your efforts deal not only with the future of the MLF in law enforcement funding, but also finding an adequate alternative to it that will meet the needs of all Pennsylvanians.

Fraternally,

Joseph Regan, President
PA State Lodge, FOP

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