April 7, 2023

Dear House Transportation Committee Member,

It has been a long-standing tradition of the Pennsylvania State Troopers Association (PSTA) not to weigh in on how our department is funded. However, we have maintained that the source of funding must be sustainable and growable.

The House Transportation Committee is holding an informational meeting on Tuesday, April 11 to discuss the effects of using the Motor License Fund (MLF) to supplement the budget of the Pennsylvania State Police. We understand the efforts to move State Police funding from dependance on the MLF and understand the importance of providing adequate funding for road and bridge projects in the commonwealth. However, we also question what funding sources will be used to replace the funding once provided by the MLF.

PSP is the primary law enforcement agency for 75% of our commonwealth's population and 85% of its land mass. As such, PSP provides services for the entire commonwealth, including Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. As municipalities continue to disband their local police forces, PSP's responsibilities and operational cost grow. Costs also grow with the advent of new technologies and training methods which are vital to solving crimes and protecting the people of Pennsylvania. How will these new costs be funded?

To reiterate, PSTA does not take a position on the funding sources for PSP operations. We only ask that that source is sustainable and growable. Please consider this as you discuss the MLF during the Transportation Committee's informational meeting.

Sincerely,

David Kennedy

President