



Pennsylvania Municipal
League

Pennsylvania Municipal League

President – Derek Green, Councilmember, City of Philadelphia



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners

President – Nathan Silcox, Commissioner, Hampden Township

MEMO

To: Chairman Stephano and Chairwoman Muth
Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee

From: Amy Sturges, Director of Government Affairs, PML and PSATC

Re: Support for Senate Bill 698 (PN 782)

Date: October 4, 2021

On behalf of the members of the PA Municipal League and the PA State Association of Township Commissioners, I am writing in support of Senate Bill 698 (PN 782).

Our members recognize the importance of addressing the delivery of volunteer fire and emergency services and developing new, more efficient models. Senate Bill 698 represents the opportunity to explore and develop the coordination of services at the county level. We appreciate the fact that this legislation is optional at all levels. We also appreciate the flexibility of the legislation in allowing decisions to be made locally, depending on local needs and local goals.

While not a quick fix for the volunteer fire and emergency service crisis facing Pennsylvania, this tool provides an avenue for relief and the opportunity to develop best practices and model initiatives that others can follow in the future.

Any substantive changes to the bill during the legislative process may require us to revisit our position; however, we do support moving the bill out of Committee to the full Senate.

Thank you.