ADVOCACY ACTION

PA House Votes to Make Intergovernmental Cooperation Easier

Recently, the House unanimously passed a three bill package aimed at making it easier and less expensive to enter into intergovernmental cooperation agreements. Representative Schemel (R- Franklin) is the prime sponsor of House Bills 510 (PN 885), 511 (PN 497) and 512 (PN 498), amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally), the Second Class Township Code and Title 11 (Cities), respectively.
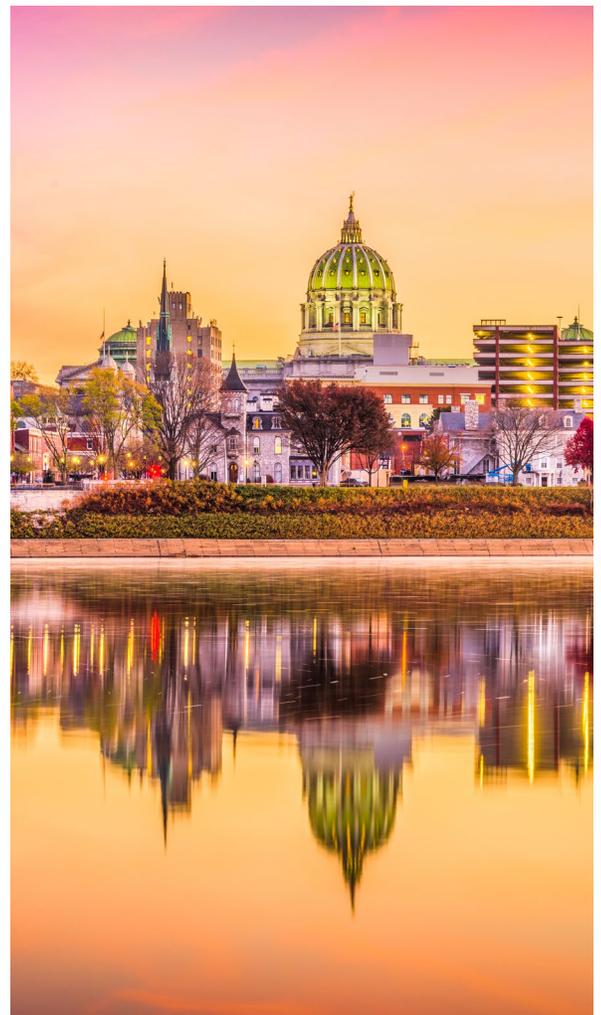
House Bill 510 amends the Intergovernmental Cooperation Law giving local government entities the option of using an ordinance or a resolution when entering into an intergovernmental cooperation agreement, unless an ordinance is specifically required by law. Utilizing a resolution, rather than the currently required ordinance, will relieve municipalities of the legal advertising process and cost allowing for more efficient governance. A council of governments or consortium of local governments, separate from the organizing bodies, must still be established by local ordinance. The bill further provides that municipal authorities entering into an intergovernmental cooperation agreement may not take on any function not authorized by law or their articles of incorporation.

House Bills 511 and 512 amend the Municipal Codes referring to the process in the Intergovernmental Cooperation Law for agreements with other municipal entities.

The package of bills has been placed in the Senate Local Government Committee.

THE LEAGUE'S LATEST

- We would like to thank **Governor Wolf for presenting at The League's Capitol Conference** earlier this month. Governor Wolf spoke about his Restore Pennsylvania plan and laid out his proposal to help communities with their infrastructure needs such as repairing roads and improving internet access.

THE LEAGUE'S LATEST (CONTINUED)

- **Executive Director's Report** – In Rick Schuettler's latest video he recognizes Local Government Day awardees among other items.

- **Send us your best community photos**. Three lucky winners will be chosen to grace the cover and have a profile feature in our 2019 editions of the *Municipal Reporter* magazine. One of our three cover winners will also receive a **FREE registration to our Annual Summit** in Gettysburg, in October! Please email any questions and your high resolution photos to Debbie Bitting at dbitting@pml.org. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to showcase your municipality!

Check out the section on our new website dedicated to member communities titled, **Meet a Member**! This month's focus is on
THE CITY OF LANCASTER!

- **Are you new to The League or just need a refresher on all the benefits of League membership?** As a League member, your municipality is eligible to participate in many of our programs, services and training opportunities. You can find more information about our programs and services by going to our new website. If you prefer to speak to someone directly, contact Harry Krot, Director of Marketing and Member Services for more information at hkrot@pml.org or by calling 717-236-9469, ext. *321. Harry would also be happy to pay you a visit in person to review League benefits with your local officials.

- **2019 League Spring Sustainability Conference** — Register Now! Join us on June 11 at the Toftrees Resort and Conference Center for our Spring Sustainability Conference. Click here to view session titles and click here to register online.

- Earlier this month **The League was honored to receive the Community Champion award,** by the PA Recreation and Park Society (PRPS) at their Annual Conference in State College, for our efforts in creating sustainable recreational opportunities and play spaces in our member communities. Click here for press release.

- **Message from PennPRIME** — The splish-splash of summer is right around the corner. To encourage happier and healthier living by increasing aquatic activity through education and research, the National Swimming Pool Foundation has resources to prevent pool-related injuries. On their website you can find industry codes and standards including the Model Aquatic Health Code, the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act, the Americans with Disability Act, and state-specific regulations. The American Red Cross provides recommendations for managing lifeguards who have a critical role in your pool operations. Protect your residents by taking time now to prepare your public pool for a safe season.

- **2019 International Town & Gown Association & University Relations Conference (May 19-22)** — Pennsylvania residents are invited to attend at a special conference rate of $295. We encourage you to attend this premier town and gown event. You do not have to be an ITGA member to take advantage of this rate. Click for more information and online registration.

RESOURCE ROUNDUP

• The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has posted the **Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation grant opportunity**. The Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) is a multi-year opioid-focused initiative by the HRSA aimed at reducing the morbidity and mortality of substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD), in rural communities at the highest risk for SUD. The closing date for applications is May 6.

• **Spring Cleaning Tips for 5 Types of Car Clutter**. Provided by our Business Leader, NJM Insurance Group.

• **Pittsburgh Urban Parks & Recreation Exchange** — On Friday, May 10 from 9.30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., the Pennsylvania Urban Parks & Recreation Alliance and the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy will host a gathering of parks & recreation professionals and champions at the Frick Environmental Center in Pittsburgh that will focus on important issues and solutions surrounding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). To register click here.

• **Free webinar on Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grants** — April 30 at 2:00 p.m. (EDT). Participants will need to register in advance and will then be emailed the webinar link and event details. Log in at ReadyTalk.com – Select your Event - Access: 7207502, Participant Dial-In Number: 303-248-0285. Participants are encouraged to use the computer's audio and "Chat" feature instead of phone lines.