



PML.org
414 North Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

717-236-9469
f 717-236-6716

MEMO

To: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Amy Sturges, Director of Governmental Affairs, Pennsylvania Municipal League

Re: Opposition to House Bill 979 (PN 991)

Date: May 24, 2021

On behalf of the membership of the Pennsylvania Municipal League, I am writing to express our opposition of House Bill 979 (PN 991) scheduled for Committee consideration tomorrow, May 25.

House Bill 979 seeks to punish municipalities for enacting local regulations concerning firearms control. Furthermore, it encourages lawsuits by giving broad standing to third-party member organizations and individuals.

Additionally, we are opposed to the general preemption of local regulation of firearms on municipally owned property. The Commonwealth, counties, courts and schools have the authority to regulate firearms on their property; municipalities should not be treated differently. Municipalities are charged with protecting the public and have the same duty as other government entities to ensure the safety of those attending public meetings and enjoying municipal parks.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask for a “no” vote on House Bill 979.

Thank you for your consideration.