

MEMO

To: The Honorable Governor Josh Shapiro
The Honorable Senate Majority Leader Joe Pittman
The Honorable Senate Minority Leader Jay Costa
The Honorable House Majority Leader Matt Bradford
The Honorable House Minority League Jesse Topper

From: The League's Executive Committee
Mayor Derek Slaughter, Williamsport, President
Manager Centrice Martin, Ferguson, First Vice President
Mayor William Reynolds, Bethlehem, Second Vice President
Mayor Peter Urscheler, Phoenixville, Legislative Committee Co-Chair
Council President Doug Tusing, Ebensburg, Legislative Committee Co-Chair
Mayor Doug Baker, Immediate Past President
Mayor Michael Lombardo, Pittston, Past President
Manager Amy Farkas, Patton
Manager Joe Fleming, St. Mary's
Council President Allen Coffman, Chambersburg
Mayor Ezra Nanes, State College
John Brenner, Executive Director
Amy Sturges, Deputy Executive Director for Advocacy

Re: 2025-26 Budget Items:
Skill Games, Adult-use Cannabis, Transit/Transportation Funding, and Home Repairs Funding

Date: June 4, 2025

As the 2025-26 budget is negotiated, we are writing to make you aware of The League's position on several important policy issues expected to be discussed in the coming weeks – skill games, adult-use cannabis, transit/transportation funding and home repairs funding.

The legalization and regulation of skill games and adult-use cannabis represent important potential revenue sources for the state government, however, both activities may result in significant public safety and social impacts at the local level.

From our perspective, these local impacts hold equal weight to the state's interests as all legalized activity will occur in our communities. Therefore, our members are looking for a portion of skill games and/or cannabis revenue to go to local governments to help defray the public safety costs and

other impacts. The League would appreciate the opportunity to provide input on legislative language should either of these items be part of the upcoming budget negotiations.

Additionally, similar to mini-casinos, our members request the ability to opt-out of having skill games in their communities. The opt-out allows for a local decision of whether to accept the additional public safety costs and social impacts skill games bring to a community. We have had members express that they have no interest in hosting skill games – even with a local share of revenue.

In terms of public transit funding and transportation funding, The League supports Governor Shapiro's proposal to put more of the state's sales tax revenue toward funding our public transit systems. This is a statewide issue that cannot be ignored if the commonwealth intends to be economically competitive. Further, the funding gap at the local level for road and bridge infrastructure continues to grow. The League supports new state-level funding mechanisms that will produce revenue for both state and local infrastructure needs.

Finally, as we continue to struggle at all levels of government to solve the affordable housing crisis, The League supports continued state investment in our current, aging housing stock. Specifically, we support Governor Shapiro's grant proposal to assist homeowners with needed repairs. Not only would such a program improve our housing stock for current and future homeowners, but it would also help to repair properties that are blighted or could easily become blighted.

We thank you for your attention and consideration of our requests. Please feel free to direct any questions to Amy Sturges, Deputy Executive Director for Advocacy at asturges@pml.org.