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MEMO

To: Members of the Senate Local Government Committee

From: Amy Sturges, Deputy Executive Director - Advocacy, PA Municipal League

Re: Opposition to Senate Bill 822 (PN 881)

Date: May 4, 2026

On behalf of the membership of the Pennsylvania Municipal League, I am writing to express our opposition to Senate Bill 822 (PN 881) scheduled for a committee vote later today.

Senate Bill 822 would punish municipalities for enacting local regulations concerning firearms control. It also encourages lawsuits by giving broad standing to third-party member organizations and individuals.

Those Pennsylvania local governments that have chosen to adopt local firearms regulations are doing so in response to the public health and safety crisis that gun violence inflicts on their communities and because the PA General Assembly has declined to enact commonsense gun regulations.

We are further 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 any 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 request a “no” vote in committee today.

Thank you for your consideration.