

Pennsylvania Municipal League

2026 Resolutions

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Resolution #1-2026

Submitted by: The League's Legislative Committee

Policy Review – 2022 Resolutions

Whereas, The League adopted a policy review process in 2016; and

Whereas, that process establishes a review of adopted policy after four years; and

Whereas, the policy adopted via the 2022 Resolutions is up for review and has resulted in the following policy recommendations to the membership:

- Permanent Funding for Whole Home Repairs Program – Reaffirm
- Recognizing the Affordable Housing Crisis in Pennsylvania – Reaffirm
- Reaffirming The League's Policy on Reforming the Local Taxing Structure – Reaffirm
- Signatures and Filing Fees for Nomination Petitions in Third Class Cities – Reaffirm
- Local Share of Recreational Marijuana Tax – Reaffirm
- Limitations on Liability Under Pennsylvania's Sovereign and Governmental Immunity Law – Reaffirm
- Consumer Fireworks Data – Reaffirm
- Opposing a Gas Tax Holiday – Reaffirm
- Municipal Police Recruitment, Retention and Funding – Reaffirm
- Public Safety Authorities – Reaffirm

Therefore, be it resolved: The League's Policy Statement will be updated accordingly.

This resolution follows the policy review process adopted in 2016 to review adopted policies after four years. The 2022 policies are under review this year.

Resolution #2-2026

Submitted by: The League's Legislative Committee

NLC's 2026 National Municipal Policy Statement and Federal Action Agenda

Whereas, Pennsylvania's municipalities are concerned with a wide range of issues at the federal level; and

Whereas, when appropriate, The League sets forth these issues in correspondence with the members of the Pennsylvania congressional delegation; and

Whereas, federal devolution has pushed the responsibilities for funding and administration of many programs onto states and localities; and

Whereas, federal devolution and the federal budget process continue to result in fewer dollars available for municipal programs; and

Whereas, municipalities cannot continue to meet the growing fiscal and societal demands for services and programs without their federal partner; and

Whereas, The League, as a State Municipal League member of the National League of Cities (NLC), takes its lead on federal issues from NLC; and

Whereas, NLC in its *2026 Federal Action Agenda* is asking Congress and the Administration to work in partnership with local governments to maximize support for programs vital to municipalities across the nation.

Therefore, be it resolved: The League reaffirms as its basic federal policy the *2026 Federal Action Agenda* of the National League of Cities.

Be it further resolved: The League reaffirms as its 2026 federal agenda, NLC's *2026 Federal Action Agenda*:

- Simplify federal requirements for communities;
- Improve housing attainability;
- Promote public safety;
- Strengthen infrastructure investment;
- Build future-focused communities;
- Build community resilience and support local economies; and
- Reduce legal and financial burdens on local governments

This resolution adopts NLC's 2026 National Municipal Policy Statement, as well as its 2026 Federal Action Agenda.

Resolution #3-2026

Submitted by: The City of Hazleton

Ensuring the Safety of Locally Elected Officials

Whereas, physical and written threats have become more and more commonplace, endangering locally elected officials; and

Whereas, these incidents make officials feel unsafe and wary of fully carrying out their job by constraining how they interact with their constituents; and

Whereas, increased threats of political violence on local leaders may lead to fewer qualified candidates running for office or it may keep voters from showing up to the polls; and

Whereas, threats against our locally elected officials not only impact individuals, but it interferes with the free and fair functioning of our local democracies; and

Whereas, we must ensure the safety of our locally elected officials by establishing penalties; and

Whereas, currently, locally elected officials are not included in the extensive list of officers, agents, and employees covered in Title 18 under section 2702 aggravated assault and section 2719 endangerment of a public safety officer..

Therefore, be it resolved: The League supports amending the definition in PA Title 18 Pa. CSA § 2702(c) to include local elected officials consisting of the mayor and councilmembers in cities, boroughs and incorporated towns; the board of commissioners in townships of the first class; the board of supervisors in townships of the second class; the board of commissioners in counties of the second class through eighth class or as may be designated in the law providing for the form of government.

This resolution supports amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) to include locally elected officials in the section 2702(c) definition to be protected from aggravated assaults and endangerment of a public safety officer.

Resolution #4-2026

Submitted by: The City of Hazleton

Certificate of Nomination for Incumbent Locally Elected Officials

Whereas, a person, whether an incumbent or new candidate, wishing to run for local office must collect signatures and file a nomination petition under current law; and

Whereas, collecting signatures to declare one's candidacy can expose an incumbent to hostile or retaliatory constituents, putting their safety at risk; and

Whereas, locally elected officials should focus on greater issues impacting their community instead of trying to collect signatures; and

Whereas, a process should exist to allow incumbent locally elected officials to declare their candidacy without the requirement to collect signatures; and

Whereas, such a process exists for Pennsylvania's incumbent magisterial judges, who may file a certificate of nomination to appear on the primary ballot as established by Act 127 of 2018; and

Whereas, the General Assembly is currently considering legislation, House Bill 1898, to allow incumbent Representatives and Senators to file a certificate of nomination.

Therefore, be it resolved: The League supports allowing incumbent locally elected officials in all classes of municipalities to file a certificate of nomination to declare their candidacy instead of a nomination petition.

This resolution supports changing the declaration of candidacy for incumbent locally elected officials from a nominating petition to a certificate of nomination.

Resolution #5-2026

Submitted by: The City of Hazleton

Right to Know Requests Related to Pending Litigation

Whereas, the Right to Know Law was implemented in 2008 to foster greater access to public records and to develop standards for the sharing of public information; and

Whereas, however, there are some cases when a record should not be deemed public because of its relation to pending litigation, a court order, or attorney-client privilege; and

Whereas, sometimes litigants make Right to Know requests from municipalities to obtain documents and information to aid in their pending litigation or legal action; and

Whereas, the proper way to request documents related to pending litigation is through the discovery process; and

Whereas, the Right to Know Law should be updated to expressly prevent litigants from using the public record law to circumvent the discovery rules of a court proceeding.

Therefore, be it resolved: The League supports amending the Right to Know Law to clearly allow a municipality to deny a request for documents for related and pending litigation.

This resolution supports amending the Right to Know to clearly state a municipality may deny a request related to pending litigation.

Resolution #6-2026

Submitted by: The League's Legislative Committee

Prohibition of Glock Switches

Whereas, devices that turn regular handguns into automatic firing weapons, also known as Glock switches, allow dozens of rounds of ammunition to be fired in under one second; and

Whereas, these machine gun conversion devices are illegal under federal law enforced by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), placing sole prosecuting authority with federal law enforcement; and

Whereas, despite this, Glock switches are inexpensive or can be 3D printed, making them easy to get; and

Whereas, the inadequate enforcement by the ATF and absence of a state law has allowed Glock switches to become more commonplace in the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, it is necessary to have state and/or local law to protect all Pennsylvanians from these deadly machine gun conversion devices; and

Whereas, the General Assembly failed to advance House Bill 1866 last year to implement a statewide ban of Glock switches and other machine gun conversion devices; and

Whereas, both the Cities of Philadelphia (2024) and York (2025) have passed legislation banning Glock switches within their jurisdictions.

Therefore, be it resolved: The League supports the statewide prohibition of Glock switches.

Be it further resolved: The League also supports local government autonomy to regulate Glock switches in their communities if the state chooses not to pass a statewide ban.

This resolution supports a statewide ban on Glock switches, and if the state fails to act, it supports local government autonomy to regulate Glock switches.

Resolution #7-2026

Submitted by: Ferguson Township

Expanding the Definition of Earned Income Tax

Whereas, municipalities may levy an Earned Income Tax (EIT), which is capped at 1% and is required to be shared with a municipality's respective school district; and

Whereas, The League's current policy position on the EIT calls for municipalities to receive the full 1% by eliminating the requirement to share the revenue; and

Whereas, there are two different definitions for EIT taxable income at the local and state level; and

Whereas, the state definition includes eight classes of income – compensation, interest, dividends, net profits from the operation of a business, profession or farm, net gains or income from the dispositions of property, net gains or income from rents, royalties, patents and copyrights, income derived through estates or trusts, and gambling and lottery winnings, including cash prizes from the Pennsylvania Lottery; and

Whereas, The EIT at the local level is limited to wages, salaries, commissions, net profits, or other compensation; and

Whereas, while The League reaffirms its current EIT policy, it would be beneficial to expand revenue options further.

Therefore, be it resolved: The League updates its EIT policy to include a switch to the expanded state definition.

This resolution reaffirms the existing League policy on EIT and expands upon it by calling for an update to the definition of taxable income.

Resolution #8-2026

Submitted by: The League's Legislative Committee

Updating the Prevailing Wage Exemption Amount

Whereas, the prevailing wage exemption has been \$25,000 since 1963; and

Whereas, the threshold project cost of \$25,000 set in the 1960s does not reflect the cost of public projects in 2026; and

Whereas, our current policy calling for an increase to \$185,000, set in 2013, needs to be updated to reflect today's inflationary costs; and

Whereas, the prevailing wage exemption for the year 2026 would be well above \$250,000 if escalated by the consumer price index; and

Whereas, House Bill 160 would increase the prevailing wage exemption to \$257,000, while also incorporating a yearly escalator clause; and

Whereas, the prevailing wage requirement continues to be one of the most burdensome unfunded mandates for municipalities.

Therefore, be it resolved: The League supports legislation providing for an increase in the prevailing wage exemption from \$25,000 to \$257,000 and incorporating an escalator to ensure an appropriate exemption in future years.

This resolution supports updating our current prevailing wage policy to increase the exemption amount to \$257,000 to meet modern costs while also incorporating an annual escalator.

Resolution #9-2026

Submitted by: The League's Legislative Committee

Statewide Standards for Kratom

Whereas, kratom is derived from a tree native to Southeast Asia that can provide a stimulant effect in low doses or a sedative effect in high doses; and

Whereas, kratom supplements sold as energy boosters, mood lifters, pain relievers, and remedies for opioid withdrawals have become commonplace in gas stations, smoke shops, convenience stores, and online stores around the country and in Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, kratom products are often sold in capsules, compressed tablets, highly concentrated liquid extracts, herbal teas, powders, or as gummy candy; and

Whereas, kratom is not regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and there are no federal or state standards regulating its contents, potency, or labeling; and

Whereas, there is also a lack of regulation as to who can sell these products or where these products can be sold; and

Whereas, because of the lack of regulations, kratom products can be chemically altered to be much more potent or other substances like hemp, caffeine, and kava can be added, resulting in unexpected or unadvertised chemical profiles; and

Whereas, kratom can become extremely addictive, and abuse is becoming more rampant in our Commonwealth and in our communities, creating a public health and safety crisis; and

Whereas, House Bill 2058 was introduced to create a comprehensive regulatory framework for kratom in Pennsylvania – the legislation includes:

- prohibiting the sale or distribution of a kratom product to an individual under 21
- requiring clear labeling on products with the ingredients, directions for use, and how to safely consume the product
- prohibiting the sale or distribution of synthetic kratom products
- banning marketing or packaging that targets or appeals to children

Therefore, be it resolved: The League supports the adoption of statewide regulation and standards for the chemical contents, sales, labeling, and advertising of kratom products.

Be it further resolved: The League also supports local government autonomy to regulate kratom in their communities if the state chooses not to pass statewide standards.

This resolution supports adopting statewide regulations for kratom products, and if the state fails to act, it supports local government autonomy to regulate such products.