

May 25, 2016

Legislative Action on Local Priorities Scheduled for Tomorrow
Your Legislators Need to Hear from You

Dear Mayor:

Both the State Senate and the General Assembly are scheduled to consider bills that could have lasting effects on your municipality. You might want to contact your State Legislators on one or more of the following.

The League of Municipalities has informed the members of the **State Senate** that we oppose the passage of the following bill:

S-879- Prohibits termination of law enforcement officer based upon determination that officer is physically unable to perform duty under certain circumstances. (Staff contact: Jon Moran)
The League believes that these interests are currently protected under existing law pursuant to the worker's compensation statute and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It is also important for municipalities to have as many police officers on staff as possible that can engage in active duty. We respectfully oppose this legislation.

Please urge your State Senators to consider our concerns with S-879.

The League of Municipalities has informed the Members of the **General Assembly** that we support the passage of the following bills:

A-1564- Establishes procedure for notification to, and review by, municipalities of certain grant and loan applications for acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes. (Staff contact: Mike Cerra)

A-2069 - Permits municipalities to issue retail liquor licenses for use in certain historic taverns. (Staff contact: Mike Cerra)

A-2514 - Permits local units of government to enter into shared services agreements with federal military installations located in the State. (Staff contact: Mike Cerra)

Please ask your representatives in the General Assembly to approve these bills.

On another matter, as you are most likely aware, it appears that a compromise has been reached on legislation that would relieve the budgetary crisis in Atlantic City, and forestall any immediate State take-over of the City's government. On Monday, the Assembly Judiciary Committee took action to amend [S-1711/A-2569](#) (which now set benchmarks and deadlines, requiring the City to plan and implement policies to ensure long-term budgetary sustainability, or face a State take-over) and [S-1715/A-2570](#) (which require the City's casinos to make predictable payments in lieu of property taxes).

Both Houses are scheduled to vote on these compromise bills tomorrow.

Of interest to many of you, both Houses are also scheduled to vote on companion bills [S-1734/A-893](#). This proposal would prohibit smoking in all county and municipal parks and limit smoking on municipal and county beaches. Smoking would be permitted in parking lots, adjacent to municipal beaches. Further, a local governing body could set aside an area - up to 15% of the total area – on a beach for smoking. Our Legislative Committee looked at this issue a few years back, but could not arrive at a consensus position.

Please contact us if you have any questions about any of these matters.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Darcy, CAE,
Executive Director