

## Advocacy Olympics



### **BRONZE – Local Use of Radar House Bill 606 and Senate Bill 419**

Both local use of radar bills are at a critical point in the legislative process and we need your help to move the bills to enactment.

Senator Mario Scavello's Senate Bill 419 recently passed the Senate and was referred to the House Transportation Committee where it awaits consideration. Representative Greg Rothman's House Bill 606 has stalled in the House after its second consideration in March. House leadership indicated that they will not take up the local radar bills unless it has a majority of support. Some House members still believe this is bill is a local revenue grab.

We need your help to encourage House leadership to bring either bill to the House Floor for a vote.

Please use the following information when calling your House member.

I support the local use of radar and I am asking you to support it as well for the following reasons:

- First and foremost, this is a public safety bill.
- Speeding motorists on local roads is one of the most common concerns voiced by constituents to local elected officials.
- Radar is acknowledged by law enforcement personnel to be the safest, most accurate, and most economical speed-timing device.
- Pennsylvania's municipal police are the only law enforcement in the country that are not permitted to enforce local speed limits and protect the public with radar.
- Speeding motorists are breaking the law.
- This is not a local revenue grab, as revenue from fines cannot exceed 10% of a municipality's budget and the cost of utilizing radar at the local level will exceed any fine revenue

Will you vote "yes" on a local use of radar bill if brought to the House Floor?

Click [here](#) to access your General Assembly member's contact information.

**Please fill out this [advocacy feedback form](#) after contacting your legislator(s).  
Please provide your feedback no later than August 18.**

## SILVER – Stormwater Management Fees House Bills 1287 and 1288

We need your help to move the stormwater management fee bills out of the House Local Government Committee, where they have been since April.

House Bills 1287 and 1288, introduced by Representative James Struzzi, would amend the Borough, Third Class City and First Class Township Codes authorizing political subdivisions to plan, manage, implement, construct and maintain storm water facilities through an enacted ordinance. These bills would allow municipalities to assess reasonable and uniform fees on properties to pay for stormwater management activities.

Please feel free to use the following information when contacting your state representative via email or phone.

I am supportive of Representative James Struzzi's House Bill 1287 and House Bill 1288 and request that the House Local Government Committee bring the bills up for a vote and move them out of the committee to the House floor for further consideration.

- There is a need for municipalities to have tools to appropriately address the unfunded MS4 mandate as well as general management of stormwater.
- A reasonable and uniform fee across all properties is a viable option to spread the costs over all who benefit, while providing a sustainable and dedicated funding source.
- Without such a fee, municipalities must rely on property taxes and potentially increase taxes to meet stormwater requirements, though this is not a viable solution in older communities.
- This authorization was provided to second class townships and municipal authorities, and it only makes sense to provide a similar tool to all municipalities.
- This tool is especially important in suburban and urban communities where there is an abundance of impervious surfaces and the need to upgrade older facilities to comply with stormwater requirements.

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## **GOLD – Repeal of the Consumer Fireworks Law, Act 43 of 2017**

Act 43 of 2017 expanded the sale and use of fireworks in Pennsylvania to “consumer fireworks.” Since enactment, public safety personnel have reported a significant increase in fireworks-related incidents and injuries, as well as significant constituent complaints. Furthermore, Act 43 preempts stricter local regulation. The League is advocating for a full repeal of Act 43. Please contact both your Senate and House members to ask them to support repeal of the Act. We also encourage you to share any examples or issues your municipality has encountered since the Act’s enactment with your legislators.

Please feel free to use the following information when contacting your legislators via email or phone call.

I’m asking for your support to repeal Act 43 of 2017 authorizing the use of consumer fireworks.

- First and foremost, Act 43 of 2017 is an unenforceable law.
- Local governments cannot adopt stricter regulations on the use of consumer fireworks.
- The relatively small amount of revenue generated from the sale of consumer fireworks pales in comparison to the toll they’ve taken on the health, safety and welfare of our communities.
- There’s been an exponential increase in noise and general fireworks complaints to both state and local police as well as fire personnel.
- This places a burden upon our first responders and public safety resources. Even if municipalities were provided the authority to regulate consumer fireworks, the ability to actually enforce the law remains an untenable problem.
- The only commonsense solution is the complete repeal of Act 43 of 2017.

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