

MEMO

To: Members of the Pennsylvania Senate
From: Amy Sturges, Deputy Executive Director – Advocacy
Re: Opposition to House Bill 1184 (PN 1616)
Date: April 6, 2022

I am writing in *strong opposition* to language in House Bill 1184 authorizing the creation of new boroughs from any area of a municipality by petition to the court of common pleas.

Pennsylvania ranks third in the nation for the number of local government units. This language promotes more fragmentation. The creation of new boroughs in the manner proscribed would have numerous consequences for the taxpayers of both a new borough and the municipality being existed. It is also hard to imagine that the services of the Commonwealth would not be called upon here, as well. For example, state police services.

The promotion of further fragmentation is poor public policy. Instead, our Commonwealth should be actively providing local governments with the tools and flexibility necessary to meet the needs of modern, fiscally sound communities.

It is unfortunate that this substantive and controversial language was inserted into a bill meant to modernize aspects of the Borough Code.

Again, the League is opposed to House Bill 1184 in its current form and asks for a “No” vote when the bill is brought to the Floor.

Thank you.