

PSAB Policy Resolutions



for the years

2009 through 2011

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2011 Resolutions

Resolution 2011-01

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation that would enable the creation of land banks for the conversion of vacant or tax-delinquent properties into productive use.

Resolution 2011-02

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support the passage of legislation which amends (Act 222 of 1955 Pa Human Relations Act) dealing with practices of discrimination because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age or national origin by employers, employment agencies, labor organizations, etc., as defined and seek to include “sexual orientation and gender identity or expression” in the protections encompassed by the Act.

Resolution 2011-03

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation which removes the statewide mandate requiring automatic sprinkler systems in one and two family homes; and be it further **RESOLVED**, legislation require home builders to offer the option of sprinkler systems in one and two family homes.

Resolution 2011-04

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek amendment to the State Highway Law which caps the amount for bonding a bituminous road at \$12,500.

Resolution 2011-07

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB pursue legislation which will result in the collection of a severance tax on all natural gas extracted in the Commonwealth and that this severance tax will be shared by the boroughs all municipalities through which and in which such extraction and related activities occur.

Resolution 2011-09

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB Government Affairs investigate the ability of boroughs to impose financial responsibility on the gas drillers for damage in their communities.

Resolution 2011-10

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB address corporate tax structure requirements for companies in PA in order to increase job availability and new companies willing to relocate in PA.

Resolution 2011-11

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB address opposition to with gas drillers making water withdraws from all surface water resources including, but not limited to the counties lakes, rivers and streams because of the potential for negative impact on water resources.

Resolution 2011-12

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support safety regulation to ensure high volume hydraulic fracturing is done in a manner that protects the environment.

Resolution 2011-13

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB assist municipalities in addressing natural gas drilling problems in their communities such as contracts, horizontal drilling under borough property, noise abatement by pump stations and other equipment.

Resolution 2011-14

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB pursue legislation to amend the Borough Code to allow boroughs to procure electric service from any public utility or electric generation provider without public bid.

Resolution 2011-15

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation that requires a video recording of all metal purchases by salvage yards including the time, date, view of the face of seller as well as the materials themselves included in the transaction.

Resolution 2011-16

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB vigorously pursue the passage of the updated Borough Code which has been the work product of the PSAB Borough Code revision committee.

Resolution 2008-01 (RA-11) “RA” designates re-adoption and the year of re-adoption

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support the concept of the Commonwealth establishing a grant program to reimburse municipalities that provide primary municipal services to State System of Higher Education (SSHE) universities.

Resolution 2008-02 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB encourages the PA General Assembly to create a funding mechanism that will generate revenue to support sewer system upgrades.

Resolution 2008-04 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the PSAB opposes the concept of a mandated statewide municipal police pension system and requests that the PA General Assembly consider other PSAB-endorsed legislative measures that may be more fiscally equitable to municipalities and taxpayers.

Resolution 2008-05 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB oppose House Bill 1474, or similar legislation, which would preempt local zoning authority for day care centers.

Resolution 2008-06 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB opposes the tolling of Interstate Route-80 and recommends finding other funding methods for highways, bridges and mass transit throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Resolution 2008-07 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB pursue legislation requiring municipalities of a population of 9,000 or greater, to pay for State Police coverage services.

Resolution 2008-08 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support House Bill 904, or similar legislation, which would amend the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) to provide for an optional temporary moratorium on development.

Resolution 2008-09 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support House Bill 2018 and similar legislation that would provide an annual revenue sharing program for municipalities containing significant amounts of tax-exempt real estate.

Resolution 2008-10 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support an amendment to the Prevailing Wage Law, Act 442 of 1961, to clarify the definitions of maintenance work on road projects. This amendment would codify the standards for maintenance work, which are exempt from prevailing wage.

Resolution 2008-11 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek an amendment to the Borough Code, Sections 701, 703, and 1101, to enable boroughs to compensate council members and mayors, who may or may not be employed by the borough, for their attendance at PSAB conferences or their duties as an officer, member of the board of trustees, member of the board of directors, or a standing committee of PSAB.

Resolution 2008-12 (RA-11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support House Bill 702, or similar legislation, which would amend Section 1201 to enable boroughs to sell personal property through an electronic auction.

2010 Resolutions

Resolution 2010-02

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB insists that all fines and other fees resulting from failure to comply with mandatory Chesapeake Bay sewer upgrades be made available to entities penalized through a form of mitigation programs.

Resolution 2010-04

BE IT RESOLVED, that the PSAB support acceptable legislation implementing municipal use of radar and similar speed timing technologies for boroughs.

Resolution 2010-05

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB urge the US Congress to enact the Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 2009 (HR3007) which would provide over \$90 billion to local governments throughout the country.

Resolution 2010-06

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support House Bill 2070 or similar legislation that bans the use of hand held cell phones and texting while driving.

Resolution 2010-07

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB Government Affairs department implore the General Assembly to take a reasoned and amicable resolution to the impending 2012 \$5.6 billion SERS/PSERS pension obligation.

Resolution 2010-10

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek legislation that would return 50% of all fines, civil penalties and fees collected for violations under Pa's Air Pollution Control Act to the municipalities where the violation occurred.

Resolution 2010-11

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation that would require municipalities with a population greater than 5,000 that rely solely on the Pa State Police for patrol services be required to pay for those PSP patrol services.

Resolution 2010-12

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support House Bill 2218 or similar legislation that would extend the sunset date on tipping fees for Section 901 & 904 Recycling Performance grant programs from 2012 to 2020.

Resolution 2010-13

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek legislation that would tax the revenue from all oil and gas production, similar to a well-head tax, and provide that proceeds from this tax, or a portion of the proceeds, would be equitably distributed to all municipalities in the Commonwealth.

Resolution 2010-14

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support House Bill 954 or similar legislation that would amend the Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law to increase the amount of the municipal allocation that may be used to purchase road equipment with liquid fuel funds from 20% to 30%.

Resolution 2010-15

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support federal legislation that would make permanent the ability of Federal Home Loan Banks to provide Letters of Credit, through their members on tax-exempt bonds and support similar initiatives that expand their abilities to serve the housing, community and economic development needs of municipalities.

Resolution 2010-17

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support Senate Bill 1228 or similar legislation that instructs the Public Employee Retirement Commission to conduct a periodic review of the cost of funding municipal pension plans.

Resolution 2010-18

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support Senate Bill 168 or similar legislation amending The Borough Code authorizing borough electric systems to enter into contracts containing take or pay provisions with other public power agencies for electric generation projects.

Resolution 2007-01 (RA10) “RA” designates re-adoption and the year of re-adoption

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB would oppose legislation that would force disincorporation or dissolution of the boroughs of the Commonwealth.

Resolution 2007-02 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB pursue legislative remedies to include shared arbitration expenses between police departments and Council to lessen the financial burden on local government; and be it further **RESOLVED**, changes to the procedure of traffic citation fine distribution be adjusted to reasonable amounts to help offset expenses incurred from issuing the citation including the cost of officers attending court hearings.

Resolution 2007-03 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek changes to Title 75 (Vehicles) to increase the fee for accident reports to \$35.00 and;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that would include a periodic review with PennDOT’s Municipal Advisory Committee for the purpose of adjusting fees to reflect true costs.

Resolution 2007-04 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek the enactment of legislation permitting the use of radar and other modern means of traffic control by municipal police departments.

Resolution 2007-09 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB supports the efforts of the 2007 Blight Task Force and consider recommendations consistent with the PSAB Municipal Policy Statement of the task force in order to address blighted properties in our Commonwealth’s borough communities.

Resolution 2007-10 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek amendment of the Urban Redevelopment Law that would lower the population thresholds to greater than or equal to 2,500 residents.

Resolution 2007-11 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation providing for payments from the state for tax-exempt properties.

Resolution 2007-12 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek an amendment to the Borough Code abolishing the position of elected assessor.

Resolution 2007-13 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation that enables municipalities to advertise public notices in alternative forms of media.

Resolution 2007-14 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB engage the findings in the PA State Transportation Advisory Committee’s report entitled “Storm Water Facilities on State Highways” to substantiate long standing claims of inequitable maintenance practices on state roads in borough limits.

Resolution 2007-16 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation that would amend the Local Government Capital Loan Program to allow the maximum amount of loans be \$50,000 and \$100,000 for a maximum length of the loan of up to twenty years; and be if further

RESOLVED, that PSAB seek a line item in the Pennsylvania budget to expand the Local Government Capital Loan Program by \$2 million.

Resolution 2007-17 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB oppose legislation that would repeal the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act and restore the previous building code standards.

Resolution 2007-18 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation which would amend Act 101 to allow counties to assess a local administrative (tipping) fee on waste haulers to help fund local recycling programs.

Resolution 2007-19 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek legislation that would provide boroughs similar powers of collection as state and federal governments.

Resolution 2007-20 (RA10)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek legislation to develop an initiative to investigate legislation that would task the Joint Conservation Committee with the concept of establishing an environmental program that would among other things, assess returnable fees on carry-out containers, bottles and beverage cans.

2009 Resolutions

Resolution 2009-01

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation to raise the Prevailing Wage threshold from \$25,000 to \$100,000 subject to an annual adjustment based on the CPI-urban index;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation to include road resurfacing projects as “maintenance” in the Prevailing Wage Act.

Resolution 2009-02

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB oppose legislation which would limit the basic right of school districts and municipalities to appeal property assessments when a property is dramatically under-assessed.

Resolution 2009-07

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB oppose Senate Bill 1491 of the 2007-2008 session, or similar legislation, which would amend the Borough Code by providing for take-or-pay or take-and-pay contracts in a borough’s purchase of electric power and energy.

Resolution 2009-09

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB research and inquire about the equitable distribution of gaming funds received and to be received by Allegheny County, with a particular emphasis on determining the amount of funds that will be available to the boroughs and other municipalities within Allegheny County, along with any procedures necessary to secure any such funds.

Resolution 2009-10

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation placing a moratorium on all fines and fees relating to consent orders, agreements, and target dates for sanitary sewer inflow and infiltration and/or nutrient reduction for a period of two years.

Resolution 2009-11

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support an amendment to the Prevailing Wage Law, Act 442 of 1961, indexing for inflation the current threshold of \$25,000 to 2009 dollars. In addition, going forward the new threshold will be updated annually each January 1, with the Consumer Price Index.

Resolution 2009-12

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation amending Act 132 of 2008, The Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act, to grandfather municipalities that already have a local home improvement contractor registration program.

Resolution 2009-13

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek legislation to direct a portion of any state natural gas severance tax revenue to local governments.

Resolution 2009-14

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek legislation to establish a mandate waiver program to relieve financial pressures on municipalities.

Resolution 2009-15

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation that would enable municipalities to fulfill advertising requirements by posting on an Internet website or a state run website in lieu of newspaper advertising.

Resolution 2009-16

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support legislation that would enable a municipality to recover costs from persons involved in automobile accidents if the municipality used its emergency services to respond to a highway emergency.

Resolution 2006-01 (RA-09) “RA” designates re-adoption and the year of re-adoption

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB, in the strongest possible manner, oppose statewide cable franchising legislation in Pennsylvania and federal cable franchising legislation in Washington, D.C.

Resolution 2006-02 (RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB seek legislation that will require insurance carriers to contract with any willing provider of medical transportation and make direct payment to the transportation provider for the services provided.

Resolution 2006-03 (RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support local municipal needs and oppose the proposed amendment by the Department of Community and Economic Development to consolidate collection of taxes.

Resolution 2006-05 (RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB opposes any legislation that attempts to create greater financial burden on local governments through the implementation of a Statewide Municipal Pension System.

Resolution 2006-06(RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the PA Legislature review the Fireworks Act of 2004 and consider enacting a revised more restrictive definition of consumer fireworks; and be it further **RESOLVED**, that the PA Legislature considers repealing sections of the former Act to insert a hold harmless clause for those fireworks retail stores that have already begun operation.

Resolution 2006-08 (RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that any honorarium, received by a mayor for officiating in a marriage, shall be permitted by law.

Resolution 2006-09 (RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB expresses its unwavering support of the Community Development Block Grant (GDBG) Program and recognizes the program's significant and unparalleled impact on the communities in the Commonwealth.

Resolution 2006-10 (RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB support tax credits for volunteer firefighters and Emergency Medical Service personnel.

Resolution 2006-11 (RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB requests the Governor, The PA General Assembly and the PA Department of Environmental Protection to join with local governments in a comprehensive review of the NPDES Phase II program.

Resolution 2006-12 (RA-09)

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB asks the State Legislature to take a serious look at the operations of DEP to see that they are more attuned to local government and their needs as they relate specifically to financial and environmental concerns.