

# League Link

A Newsletter of [The Pennsylvania Municipal League](#)



May 2024



## Executive Director's Report



## Advocacy Action

### A More Local Government Friendly PTSI Bill Passes the House

[House Bill 1632](#) passed the House on May 8 in a 154-46 vote.

The League has been working for at least six years to find a compromise on this legislation. As you know, we were seeking to narrow the language and put provisions in place to create a more financially responsible and insurable bill. Our coalition with other local government organizations provided amendment language to the sponsor in mid-April. While our proposed changes were not initially well received, House Bill 1632 was favorably amended before heading to the Floor for a final vote.

Now, under the bill, PTSI must be diagnosed by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist, which is a welcome change from the previous diagnosis by a licensed medical or mental health professional. There is also a five-year limit on retroactive claims, initially the bill had no time limit for claiming PTSI. A list of qualifying traumatic events has been added providing a level of objectivity to a claim. And, lastly, the effective date was pushed back from 60 days to one year.

We sincerely appreciate the inclusion of some of our proposed language in the bill. We will continue to work in the Senate to modify the bill further.

Thank you to all local officials who contacted their House members to express concern with this bill.

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## League's Latest

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Please welcome our newest member to The League – [Sandy Township in Clearfield County](#), Welcome aboard! That makes us 146 League members strong!

**Staff at The League have been very busy in April and May as we traveled across the commonwealth to conduct seven district meetings.** The League's district meetings are held each spring across its six districts, focusing on vital updates in legislation and the Municipal Leadership Summit, alongside discussions on League programs and services. These gatherings are crucial for introducing policy resolutions and electing District Officers, aiming to shape League policy for the upcoming year. A few years ago, we introduced a new segment where members present on topics of their choice, which has been both highly educational and well-received. Due to its success, we've made these [presentations available on our website](#) for all members to access. If you have not attended these meetings recently we ask you to strongly consider attending next year as they also offer valuable networking opportunities, leadership training credits, and the chance to win a complimentary registration for the Municipal Leadership Summit.

**The League is excited to introduce a [new program for League Members](#), which will allow for enhanced efficiency and savings through our partnership with Amazon Business. [The Amazon Business Associated Accounts Program](#) is now available to all League members, offering a robust platform to consolidate and optimize your purchasing processes while maintaining control over individual buying needs.**

By joining this program, you will gain access to a suite of benefits designed to simplify your procurement tasks and reduce costs significantly. These include: Special discounts on Business Prime membership plans, allowing up to 50% savings; A streamlined purchasing system with easy access to necessary supplies across various categories; Flexible payment options, including the advantageous Pay by Invoice credit line.

To participate, you can either create a free Amazon Business account or connect your existing account as an "Associated Account." This setup will empower your organization with tools for managing spending, enhancing spend visibility, and making informed budgeting decisions. Start today by using the [verification code provided](#) to create or join your account and unlock these exclusive benefits. We encourage all members to take advantage of this valuable program designed to support your operational needs and financial strategies.

**Municipal Reporter Article Topics** – We would love to feature your municipality in one of our upcoming editions! Below is our 2024 Publication Schedule for the remainder of the year and themes for each issue:

1. June – **Livable Communities**; copy due date **May 28** (extended deadline) - **Please share any cover worthy photos you have of your municipality as we would love to feature you.**
2. August – **Leadership**; copy due date **July 10**
3. October – **Civility**; copy due date **September 10**
4. December – **Emergency Management**; copy due date **November 10**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Debbie Bitting, Director of Communications, at [dbitting@pml.org](mailto:dbitting@pml.org)

Be sure to fill out our [ARPA Investment Tracker](#) so we can share the great ways you are using your ARPA dollars with all members. Thank you!

For more information, see our [News & Announcements and newsfeed](#) on our homepage.



Once again, the Pennsylvania Municipal League has teamed up with the national non-profit group, KABOOM!, to coordinate volunteers, design, and build a new playground, designed with the help of neighborhood children.

[PML.org/playground-build](https://pml.org/playground-build)



**Keynote Speaker**

**Charlie Dent, Former U.S. Congressman**

Charlie Dent leads bipartisan, bicameral policy education programs for sitting members of Congress. In addition to his role at the Aspen Institute, he is a regular Political Commentator for CNN, MSNBC, and other media outlets. He is also a Senior Policy Advisor to the global law firm, DLA Piper and serves on the boards of nonprofit organizations including CARE USA and The National Archives Foundation.

[PML.org/municipal-leadership-summit](https://pml.org/municipal-leadership-summit)

## Resource Roundup

[NLC is celebrating its centennial milestone, what they are calling the “NLC Centennial Roadshow: 100 Years, 100 Cities”](#) to highlight members, partners, and the transformative progress accomplished together. During this journey, NLC aims to visit 100 cities, in-person and virtually, to spotlight the unique stories of municipalities and the invaluable relationships they’ve cultivated with NLC. Follow the Roadshow! Browse the map to track the route and scroll down for photos of fantastic members from each of the stops as well as the latest on upcoming destinations. The League was in attendance and co-presented artwork to Pittsburgh (who participated in the Roadshow) Mayor Ed Gainey, [see photos here](#).

[PHMC and Historical Records Advisory Board Announce Grant Opportunity for Archival Records](#) - The Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission (PHMC) and the Pennsylvania State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) are now accepting applications for the Historical & Archival Records Care (HARC) grant program. **The application deadline is August 1, 2024.**

[Save the Dates for PennDOT's Upcoming Quarterly Sessions on Digital Delivery](#) – PennDOT Digital Delivery Quarterly Webinar Sessions are being offered on September 26 and June 27.

**The League is helping the Chesapeake Bay Program conduct a survey of elected or appointed officials and senior staff involved in policy making.** Results will be used to improve and enhance training and information for local leaders. [Please take 10 minutes to share your opinions!](#) We appreciate your help. The survey is being conducted by an independent contractor (Eastern Research Group, Inc. (ERG)). Your feedback is confidential. If you have any questions, please contact the survey helpdesk at [surveyhelp@erg.com](mailto:surveyhelp@erg.com).

Remember, you can access all archived editions of The League Link as well as other member publications, forms and resources in your [Member Dashboard](#).

### Pennsylvania Municipal League

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[PML.org](http://PML.org)

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