



**Vote YES – May 18, 2021**

## To Support the Pennsylvania Fire Service Statewide Referendum Ballot Question

The Senate Resolution 6 Commission unanimously recommended to change the Volunteer Loan Assistance Program and add career/combination fire departments. We encourage all fire departments to advocate for a yes vote in your community!

It is important to understand:

- The loan fund is solvent, and every year enjoys significant surplus. The current balance is 47 million dollars.
- The loans are paid back with interest.
- The loans do not cover the full cost of the apparatus.
- Currently 60 to 77 vehicles are funded per year, and it is estimated that adding 30 additional career departments would likely generate one additional vehicle loan per year and will not negatively hurt the program nor cause loan requests to be refused.
- Money from this program have been transferred for general government operations and we strongly feel the fire service should benefit by adding the 22 career departments ahead of non-fire uses.
- Please see ballot question below:

### **STATEWIDE REFERENDUM – ACT 2020-91 - MAKING MUNICIPAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS - Ballot Question**

Do you favor expanding the use of the indebtedness authorized under the referendum for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads under 35 PA.C.S. §7378.1 (related to referendum for additional indebtedness) to include loans to municipal fire departments or companies that provide services through paid personnel and emergency medical services companies for the purpose of establishing and modernizing facilities to house apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the fire companies and emergency medical services companies?

For questions or other information please contact:

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