



**New Hampshire  
Municipal Association**

**2011-2012**

# **Policy**. Legislative **POSITIONS**

## About the New Hampshire Municipal Association

The New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) is a nonprofit, non-partisan membership organization of municipalities. NHMA provides advocacy support for municipal governments following the Legislative Policies and Legislative Principles adopted by the membership, as well as educational and training programs for local officials and employees. Advocacy activities are funded by member dues and governed by a Municipal Advocacy Committee comprising elected and appointed municipal officials from throughout New Hampshire.

As part of the legislative advocacy program, NHMA staff represents municipal interests before the New Hampshire General Court and state agencies, and lobbies for passage of both state and federal legislation. NHMA also tracks state and federal administrative regulations. The weekly *Legislative Bulletin* is published during the legislative session to keep local officials up to date on legislative hearings, the status of bills and other events.

NHMA is affiliated with the New Hampshire Local Government Center (LGC), which comprises LGC's Property-Liability Trust, HealthTrust and Workers' Compensation Program. LGC provides supportive programs and services that strengthen the ability of New Hampshire municipalities, schools and county governments to serve the public effectively. Legal support, training programs and risk management services are a few examples of LGC offerings. LGC also publishes a variety of educational and informational materials. Visit [www.nhlgc.org](http://www.nhlgc.org) for more information.

NHMA staff does not lobby on behalf of the New Hampshire Local Government Center, LGC HealthTrust, LGC Property-Liability Trust or LGC Workers' Compensation Program. To the extent that any of these entities encounter issues before the Legislature, LGC staff or a contract lobbyist will cover the matter.

### Staff Contact Information

The following NHMA Government Affairs staff members are your contacts for legislation during the biennium:

Judy A. Silva, *Deputy Director for Legal Services and Government Affairs*

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To accept dues from member municipalities and maintain its nonprofit status, NHMA must remain a non-partisan organization. As employees of a non-partisan organization, NHMA staff members are prohibited from attending fundraisers for political candidates or contributing to other partisan causes. Staff scrupulously abides by this requirement, so we ask for your understanding when we are not able to honor an invitation to attend a political event.

## Legislative Policy Process

This publication contains the legislative policy positions adopted by the NHMA membership for the 2011-2012 biennium. This section describes the process used to establish NHMA legislative policy.

NHMA always uses a member-driven process for the determination of legislative policy. Two committees are involved in this process and in NHMA's legislative advocacy: the Committee on Government Affairs and the Municipal Advocacy Committee. The Committee on Government Affairs (CGA) is a 75-member committee of elected and appointed local officials from across the state whose primary responsibility is establishing legislative policy recommendations. The Municipal Advocacy Committee (MAC) is a 31-member committee of elected and appointed local officials with a primary responsibility to oversee and guide NHMA's advocacy activities and implementation of policy during the legislative session. All MAC members also serve on CGA; the members of both committees are listed on the following page.

The legislative policy process for the 2011-2012 biennium began, as it always has, with the solicitation of policy proposals from local officials to create an initial issues list. The CGA then divided into three legislative policy committees: Municipal Administration and Finance Management; Planning and Environmental Quality; and General Government, Revenue and Intergovernmental Relations. These three policy committees each held a number of meetings during the spring of 2010 to discuss the policy proposals submitted by others as well as the ideas committee members brought to the table. The recommendations from the policy committees were submitted to MAC, which then made the final policy recommendations to NHMA member municipalities. Those recommendations, as well as "floor policies" submitted over the summer, were mailed to each member municipality for review.

The NHMA 2011-2012 Legislative Policy Conference was held on September 17, 2010, and conducted in the traditional manner. Each member municipality, regardless of size, has one vote, and is asked to appoint a voting delegate to cast its votes at the policy conference. The governing body of each member municipality is urged to give direction to the voting delegate by discussing and taking a position on the recommendations and floor policies in advance. Conference attendees engaged in lively debate on many issues, which culminated in the final policy positions contained on the following pages.

There are three types of policies: Action Policies, Priority Policies and Standing Policies. Action Policies are items of highest importance, on which NHMA actively pursues the introduction and passage of legislation. NHMA pursues legislation on Priority Policies as time and resources permit, and otherwise uses them to guide its positions on legislation submitted by others. Standing Policies direct staff in reacting to legislation as it is introduced and often contain items of longstanding concern to NHMA members. Issues arising during the legislative session that are not covered by these policies, or situations where it is not clear how a policy applies, will be considered by the Municipal Advocacy Committee. For further explanation of any policy, contact the Government Affairs staff at 800.852.3358, ext. 384, or e-mail [governmentaffairs@nhlgc.org](mailto:governmentaffairs@nhlgc.org).

## Municipal Advocacy Committee

### **Chair**

Pamela Brenner, *Town Administrator, Peterborough*

### **Vice Chair**

Stephen Fournier, *Town Administrator, North Hampton*

*Members (as of September 2010):*

David Alukonis, *Legislative Liaison, Nashua*

Lawrence Ballin, *Economic Development Committee, New London*

Robert A. Beauregard, *Trustee of Trust Funds, Swanzey*

James P. Bouley, *Mayor, Concord*

Troy Brown, *Town Administrator, Hollis*

David R. Caron, *Town Manager, Londonderry*

Mark Coen, *City Councilor, Concord*

Jill Collins, *Town Administrator, Hinsdale*

Charles E. Connell, *Town Manager, Littleton*

Phillip A. D'Avanza, *Selectman, Goffstown*

Sue Desruisseaux, *Town Administrator, Goffstown*

Crow Dickinson, *Selectman, Conway*

Elizabeth Dragon, *City Manager, Franklin*

James Eich, *Selectman, Stark*

Dianna L. Fogarty, *Director of Human Resources, Portsmouth*

Keith R. Hickey, *Town Manager, Merrimack*

Edmund F. Jansen, Jr., *Selectman, Rollinsford*

Leon S. Kenison, Sr., *Public Works Director, Nashua*

Jessie W. Levine, *Town Administrator, New London*

Karen Liot Hill, *City Councilor, Lebanon*

Harold Lynde, *Selectman, Pelham*

Russell R. Marcoux, *Town Manager, Bedford*

Scott Myers, *Mayor, Dover*

Daniel P. O'Neill, *Town Manager, Newport*

Dennis Pavlicek, *Town Administrator, Newbury*

P. Dale Pregent, *Mayor, Keene*

Guy Scaife, *Town Administrator, Milford*

John F. Scruton, *City Manager, Rochester*

## Committee on Government Affairs

### **Chair**

Pamela Brenner, *Town Administrator, Peterborough*

### **Vice Chair**

Stephen Fournier, *Town Administrator, North Hampton*

*CGA includes all members of MAC as well as the following (as of October 2010):*

Roger Barczak, *Conservation Commission, Sandown*

Normand Bernaiche, *Assessor, Newbury*

Barry Brenner, *Town Manager, Seabrook*

Laura Buono, *Town Administrator, Warner*

Rick Carrier, *Town Administrator, Chesterfield*

Chris Christopoulos, *Fire Chief, Lebanon*

Katherine Connolly, *Selectman, Hanover*

Russell Dean, *Town Manager, Exeter*

Paul Deschaine, *Town Administrator, Stratham*

Scott Dunn, *Town Administrator, Gilford*

Elizabeth Fox, *Town Administrator, Swanzey*

Robin Frost, *Town Manager, Gorham*

Joel Godston, *Airport Commission, Haverhill*

Tom Gray, *Selectman, Milton*

Jill Hadaway, *Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Bow*

Stephen Halleran, *Town Administrator, Plainfield*

Bill Herman, *Town Administrator, Auburn*

Bentti Hoiska, *Selectman, New Ipswich*

Thomas A. Holmes, *Assessor, Conway*

Robert Houseman, *Director of Planning and Development, Wolfeboro*

Karen Irwin, *Budget Committee, Hopkinton*

Walter Johnson, *Town Administrator, Holderness*

John Kieley, *Selectman, Temple*

Jeff King, *Recreation Director, Peterborough*

Nancy Kurinskas, *Tax Collector, Pembroke*

Elaine M. Lauterborn, *City Councilor, Rochester*

Bob Mack, *President, NH Local Welfare Administrators Association*

Kenneth J. Massey, *Selectman, Hudson*

Elizabeth A. McClain, *Finance Director, Hanover*

Thomas McCue, *City Councilor, Berlin*

Donna Nashawaty, *Town Manager, Sunapee*

Janice O'Connell, *Finance Director, Goffstown*

Christie Phelps, *Town Administrator, Alexandria*

Carlotta Pini, *Town Administrator, Rindge*

James C. Pitts, *Town Manager, Bow*

James Rolston, *Treasurer, Greenland*

Jack Savage, *Moderator, Middleton*

Steven P. Schneider, *Town Manager, Enfield*

Laura Scott, *Community Development Director, Windham*

Jane Taylor, *City Attorney, Claremont*

Frederick Welch, *Town Manager, Hampton*

# 2011-2012 Legislative Policy Positions

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT, REVENUE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

### ACTION POLICIES

#### 1. New Hampshire Retirement System

**NHMA SUPPORTS** the continuing existence of a retirement system for state and local government employees that is strong, secure, solvent, fiscally healthy and sustainable, that both employees and employers can rely on to provide retirement benefits for the foreseeable future.

To that end, **NHMA:**

- (a) **SUPPORTS** legislation that will strengthen the health and solvency of the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) and ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the retirement system for public employers;
- (b) **SUPPORTS** legislation to change the age at which a group II employee may receive retirement benefits from 45 to 50, effective for current employees with less than 10 years of covered employment;
- (c) **SUPPORTS** legislation to change the determination of the average final compensation to an average of the highest five years of creditable service, instead of the highest three years, for all employees retiring after July 1, 2016;
- (d) **SUPPORTS** legislation requiring that all NHRS rate increases, above those attributable to the \$2.4 billion unfunded liability agreed to by public employers in 2007, are to be shared equally between employees and employers;
- (e) **OPPOSES** any legislation which expands benefits that would result in increases to municipal employer costs;
- (f) **OPPOSES** any increase in the municipal 65 percent share of employer costs for police, teachers and firefighters; and

(g) **SUPPORTS** legislation creating alternative retirement plan design options.

**NHMA SUPPORTS** continuing to work with legislators, employees and the NHRS on retirement fund deficiencies and ways to assure the long-term health and solvency of the NHRS.

#### 2. Evergreen Clause

**NHMA SUPPORTS** the elimination of the recently added so-called “evergreen clause” (RSA 273-A:12, VII) from RSA Chapter 273-A.

#### 3. Pollution Control Exemption

**NHMA SUPPORTS** repeal of the so-called “pollution control exemption” (RSA 72:12-a) or, in the alternative, amending the statute (a) to exclude any devices that are required by law, (b) to require that the primary purpose of the device is to control pollution, and (c) to impose a term limitation on any exemption granted.

### PRIORITY POLICIES

#### 4. Increase in Road Toll (Gas Tax)

**NHMA SUPPORTS** an increase in the road toll (gas tax) under RSA 260:32, so long as all additional revenues are used for highway purposes and at least 12 percent of such additional revenues are distributed to cities and towns.

### 5. Right to Know Costs and Specificity Required

**NHMA SUPPORTS** amendments to RSA Chapter 91-A allowing municipalities to recover the actual costs of retrieving, reviewing and reproducing documents and clarifying the level of specificity required when requesting public records.

### 6. Land Use Compliance by Government Entities

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to strengthen RSA 674:54 to permit municipalities to require that development of property for governmental uses, excluding transportation and telecommunications facilities, be subject to local land use regulations.

## STANDING POLICIES

### 7. Public Notice Requirements

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to amend all public notice requirements to allow the choice of electronic notification and/or newspaper print, as well as posting in public places, for official public legal notification.

### 8. Highway Fund

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislative and administrative proposals to limit or eliminate the diversion of highway funds for non-highway purposes and, further, **NHMA SUPPORTS** working with the legislature and the Department of Transportation on alternative funding sources that will assure the maintenance of existing state and local transportation infrastructure, and greater focus and financial support for public transportation, including rail and bus services.

### 9. Charitable Definition and Mandated Property Tax Exemptions

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation redefining the term “charitable” in RSA 72:23-l, adopting a stricter review of property owned by religious, charitable and educational entities for compliance with the statutes, and creating

a method of reimbursement to municipalities for state-owned property. **NHMA OPPOSES** legislation which requires the granting of additional local property tax exemptions, unless the state reimburses municipalities for the loss of revenue.

### 10. Municipal Use of Structures in the Right-of-Way

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to authorize municipalities to utilize, for any municipal purpose, the space designated for municipal good upon all poles, conduit and other structures within their rights-of-way without paying unreasonable make-ready costs. This includes the right to use that space for data and voice transmission to, from and by the municipal government, schools, library and other governmental institutions. It also includes a requirement that the owners of utility poles and conduit do the necessary work for that space to be available.

### 11. Downshifting of State Costs

**NHMA OPPOSES** legislation which will downshift state costs or state program responsibilities, either directly or indirectly, to municipalities and/or counties, resulting in increased municipal and/or county expenditures, whether in violation of Article 28-a or not, and **SUPPORTS** adequate state funding of Medicaid costs.

### 12. Binding Arbitration

**NHMA OPPOSES** mandatory binding arbitration as a mechanism to resolve impasses in municipal employee collective bargaining.

### 13. Telecom Company Property Tax Exemption

**NHMA OPPOSES** any exemption from the property tax for poles, wires and conduits owned by telecom companies.

#### 14. State Revenue Structure and State Education Funding

**NHMA SUPPORTS** asking the state to use the following principles when addressing the State’s revenue structure in response to its responsibility to fund an adequate education:

- (a) That revenues are sufficient to meet the State’s responsibilities as defined by constitution, statute and common law;
- (b) That revenue sources are predictable, stable and sustainable and will grow with the long-term needs and financial realities of the state;
- (c) That changes to the revenue structure are least disruptive to the long-term economic health of the state;
- (d) That the revenue structure is efficient in its administration;
- (e) That changes in the revenue structure are fair to people with lower to moderate incomes.

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation prohibiting retroactive changes to the distribution formula for adequate education grants after the notice of grant amounts has been given.

**NHMA OPPOSES** reductions in State revenue to political subdivisions, such as revenue sharing, meals and rooms tax distribution, highway block grants, water pollution monies, adequate education grants or catastrophic aid.

#### 15. Utility Appraisal Method

**NHMA OPPOSES** mandating the exclusive use of the unit method of valuation in the appraisal of utility property, by either administrative or legislative action, and **SUPPORTS** the right of municipalities to use any method of appraisal upheld by the courts.

#### 16. Minimum Vote Required for Bond Issues

**NHMA OPPOSES** legislation to increase the 60 percent bond vote requirement for official ballot communities.

#### 17. Mandated Employee Benefits

**NHMA OPPOSES** any proposals to mandate employee benefits, including any proposal to enhance retirement system benefits which may increase employer costs in future years for current or future employees.

#### 18. Underground Utilities

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to continue to allow municipalities to incur debt for the purpose of removing overhead utilities and replacing them with underground utilities.

#### 19. PILOTs for Water System Property

**NHMA OPPOSES** any change in current state statutes (RSA 72:11, RSA Chapter 79-A or RSA Chapter 79-B at a minimum) that would eliminate or reduce the current obligation of a public water entity whose land holdings are in another municipality to pay that municipality a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) that is equal to what the property taxes would be for the property.

#### 20. Administrative Rules

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to require that draft rules be returned to the relevant policy committee prior to submission to the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules to ensure that they accurately reflect the policy committee’s intent.

#### 21. Collection of Statewide Education Property Tax

**NHMA** takes **NO POSITION** on the collection of the statewide property tax.

# MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE MANAGEMENT

## ACTION POLICIES

### 1. Assessing Practice: Income and Expense Statements on Appeal

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation that prohibits the use of income and expense information by a taxpayer in any appeal of value if the taxpayer, after request by the municipality, has not submitted the requested information.

### 2. Fine for Failure to Submit Current Use Information

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation imposing a fine for failure to submit current use information as needed to update municipal records—*e.g.*, Marlow matrix.

### 3. Welfare Lien Priority

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation giving welfare liens arising under RSA 165:28 priority over other liens, with the exception of property tax liens.

### 4. Supervisor of Checklist Sessions

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to reduce to one the number of required sessions that the supervisors of the checklist must hold prior to town elections.

### 5. Counting Absentee Ballots

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to eliminate the requirement that absentee ballots cannot be counted prior to 1 p.m., but allow them to be counted throughout the time when polls are open.

### 6. Smoothing of Education Taxes

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to allow the governing body of a municipality, in consultation with the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration, to adjust the partial payment of the taxes assessed on April 1 in any tax year by taking the prior year's assessed valuation times one-half of the previous year's tax rate, and an amount sufficient to collect any anticipated extraordinary increase or decrease in the Statewide Education Property Tax or the local school tax.

## PRIORITY POLICIES

### 7. Tax Liening Mandatory

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to change RSA 80:59 to read: "The real estate of every person or corporation shall be subject to the tax lien procedure by the collector, in case all taxes against the owner shall not be paid in full on or before December 1 next after its assessment, provided that the municipality has adopted the provisions of RSA 80:58-86 in accordance with RSA 80:87. A real estate tax lien imposed in accordance with the provisions of RSA 80:58-86 shall have priority over all other liens."

### 8. Municipal Recreation Programs

**NHMA SUPPORTS** the exemption from state child care licensing for municipal recreation department programs and also supports the exemption from state camp licensing for municipal recreation department summer programs.

### 9. Requirement to Hold Elected Office

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation clarifying that to run for and hold a local elected office, one must be a registered voter.

**10. Bonds on Official Ballot in Non-SB 2 Towns**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** amending RSA 33:8 and/or RSA 33:8-a to permit warrant articles requesting authorization of bonds or notes in excess of \$100,000 to appear on the “Official Ballot” for any annual or special town meeting at the discretion of the governing body.

**11. Solid Waste Revolving Fund**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to allow municipalities to establish, by vote of the legislative body, revolving funds for their solid waste programs, including solid waste collection, disposal and the operation of any municipally-operated transfer station, in addition to recycling.

**12. Governing Body Recommendation for All Warrant Articles**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to permit governing bodies to state their position on any warrant article where they are not currently required to state a position.

**STANDING POLICIES**

**13. Proration of the Disabled Exemption**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation prorating the disabled exemption under RSA 72:37-b when a person entitled

to the exemption owns a fractional interest in the residence, in the same manner as is allowed for the elderly exemption under RSA 72:41.

**14. Irrevocable Trusts for Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation authorizing cities, towns, school districts and counties to create irrevocable trusts to prefund OPEB liabilities.

**15. Tax Bill Information**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to amend RSA 76:11-a to allow those municipalities which have adopted the deaf exemption to include the word “deaf” following the word “blind” in the information contained on tax bills.

**16. Appointment of Town Clerks and Town Clerks/Tax Collectors**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** an amendment to RSA Chapter 41 to give towns the option to authorize the governing body to appoint or elect town clerks and town clerk/tax collectors.

**17. Recording Fees for Elderly Deferrals**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation to waive municipal recording fees for the establishment and release of elderly deferrals at the county Registry of Deeds.

**PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**ACTION POLICIES**

**1. Notice to Upstream Dam Owners**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** the repeal of 2009 N.H. Laws 31:2 and 31:3, which amended RSA 676:4, I(b) and (d), regarding identification and notification to owners of upstream dams on applications and plans submitted to municipal planning boards.

**2. Planning Board Appeals**

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation that (a) protects parties from losing their appeal rights when they appeal a planning board decision to the superior court under RSA 677:15 or to the ZBA under RSA 676:5, III, and either body determines that the appeal should have gone to the other, and (b) allows all issues to be appealed to the superior court after the conclusion of any appeal

to the ZBA. Any such legislation should preserve the existing 30-day appeal period under RSA 677:15.

## PRIORITY POLICIES

### 3. Environmental Regulation and Preemption

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation that (a) recognizes municipal authority over land use and environmental matters, (b) limits state preemption of local environmental regulation to those matters on which there is a compelling public need for uniform state regulation or which municipalities do not have the expertise or resources to regulate, and (c) recognizes that even when local environmental regulation is preempted, compliance with other local laws, such as zoning and public health ordinances and regulations, is still required.

### 4. Impact Fees for State Highways

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation allowing municipalities to collect impact fees or exactions for improvements to state highways.

### 5. Conservation Investment

**NHMA SUPPORTS** permanent funding for the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program and **OPPOSES** any subsequent diversion of such funds to other uses.

## STANDING POLICIES

### 6. Energy, Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation encouraging state and federal programs that provide incentives and assistance to municipalities to adopt energy use and conservation techniques that will manage energy costs and environmental impacts, promote the reasonable use of renewable energy sources and promote energy conservation, so long as such legislation does not override local regulation.

### 7. Open Space Retention/Sprawl Prevention/Housing and Conservation Planning

**NHMA SUPPORTS** legislation encouraging statewide programs that provide incentives and assistance to municipalities to adopt land use planning and regulatory techniques that will better prevent sprawl, retain existing tracts of open space and preserve community character. This policy includes **SUPPORT** for continued funding for the Housing and Conservation Planning Program.

### 8. Sludge/Biosolids

**NHMA SUPPORTS** reliable enforcement of scientifically-based health and environmental standards for the management of sludge, septage and biosolids; **SUPPORTS** the funding of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food at a level allowing full and adequate development and enforcement of such scientifically-based health and environmental standards; **SUPPORTS** an increase in the amount of state aid grants or other financial assistance for wastewater treatment plant upgrades to improve the quality of biosolids produced from Class B to Class A biosolids; **OPPOSES** any state legislation that would curtail the ability of municipalities to dispose of municipally-generated biosolids through land spreading, when done in accord with such scientifically-based health and environmental standards; and **OPPOSES** any preemption of local authority to regulate in this field.

### 9. Current Use

**NHMA OPPOSES** any legislative attempt to undermine the basic goals of the current use program and **OPPOSES** any reduction in the 10-acre minimum size requirement for qualification for current use, beyond those exceptions now allowed by the rules of the Current Use Board.

## Legislative Principles

In addition to the established Legislative Policy Positions adopted by the NHMA membership, the following principles should guide staff in setting priorities during any legislative biennium:

1. Consider unfunded mandate issues that violate Part 1, Article 28-a of the New Hampshire Constitution to be paramount. Identify them and oppose them.
2. Work to maintain existing revenue streams to municipalities, (i.e. revenue sharing, meals and rooms, highway and other state aid). Be especially watchful of proposals to reduce local aid in order to meet other funding commitments.
3. Advocate to maintain existing local authority.
4. Support issues which provide greater authority to more effectively, efficiently and flexibly govern at the local level, including local option legislation. If the legislature is considering adopting a program that is particularly controversial at the local level, support a requirement that a local legislative body vote is necessary before full implementation of the measure.
5. Support bills proposed by individual municipal members, except when they conflict with these principles or other NHMA policies. Staff should prioritize time and resources when there are competing demands in order to focus on NHMA's broad agenda first.
6. Encourage exemptions from state taxes rather than local property taxes when legislative intent is to preserve statewide resources.
7. Advocate for municipal representation on all state boards, commissions and study committees which affect municipal government and have non-legislative members.
8. Work cooperatively with other groups and associations to support efforts to improve the delivery of services at the local level.
9. Support municipal efforts toward effective regional cooperation and delivery of municipal services.
10. Support efforts to develop a statewide technology network that fosters increased communication and greater compatibility among levels of government and within and between agencies in all levels of government.



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