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February 3, 2021

TO: The Honorable Maggie McIntosh
Chair, Appropriations Committee

FROM: The Office of the Attorney General

RE: HB 13 – Influence on Collective Bargaining – Prohibition on Use of Public Funds
and Income Tax Addition Modification – **Letter of Support**

The Office of the Attorney General urges the Appropriations Committee to favorably report HB 13. Delegate Luedtke's HB 13 prohibits a unit of State, county, or municipal government from knowingly using public funds to influence county or municipal employees to support or oppose an employee organization that represents or seeks to represent such employees or to become a member of an employee organization. The legislation has exceptions for: (1) activities and expenses incurred in connection with addressing grievances or negotiating or administering a collective bargaining agreement (CBA); (2) allowing employee organizations or their representatives to use the State's, county's, or municipality's facilities; (3) performing activities required by federal or state law, or a CBA; (4) negotiating, entering into, or carrying out a voluntary recognition agreement with an employee organization; or (5) paying wages to a represented employee while that employee is performing duties if the payment is permitted under a CBA. In short, HB 13 prohibits the use of government funds in union busting or union promotion prior to an election.

The Office of Attorney General urges a favorable report on HB 13.

cc: Delegate Luedtke & Members of the Appropriations Committee