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House Bill 1228, Printer's Number 1613

**Amending the First Class Township Code –
Gifts of de minimis economic impact**

PROPOSAL/SUMMARY: This bill amends the First Class Township Code (Act 331 of 1931) to allow the Township Commissioners to appropriate money for the purposes of purchasing flowers, plaques, or other personal property as a token to recognize the service or passing of a township official, employee or volunteer. No item may be purchased at a cost that exceeds \$100, and the gift is deemed to be a gift of de minimis economic impact, and not subject to the reporting requirements of the statement of financial interest pursuant to the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act. Specifically excluded would be cash, gift certificates and hospitality.

The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) requested this legislation pursuant to a resolution adopted at the 2014 PSATS Annual Conference. The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners and the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs agreed to similar legislation amending the First Class Township Code and the Borough Code, respectively. Similar amendatory language is also included in Senate Bill 775, a Local Government Commission bill, which consolidates the Third Class City Code into Title 11 (Cities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes.

This document is for information purposes only. It is not an official restatement of the complete contents of the bill and existing law, and should not be construed as a legal opinion concerning the content or meaning of either.