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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 11, 2009

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**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA MEMBERS AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
TAKE STRONG AND AGGRESSIVE STANCE ON STATE BUDGET IMPASSE**  
*Counties from around the state unanimously adopt motion*

(Somerset, PA)--County leaders from around the commonwealth gathered at the 2009 123rd Annual Conference of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) in Somerset County today took aim at state lawmakers' failure to pass a state budget by passing a motion of their own.

The motion, approved unanimously by the 59 counties in attendance, came after intense discussions during a special forum on the budget held during the Association's Annual Business Meeting, according to James Kennedy, president of the Association and a Butler County commissioner.

The motion, as adopted, says, "We call on every member of the General Assembly to press leadership for a prompt and fair conclusion to the commonwealth budget and to carry the same message to the governor."

Kennedy said, "Sentiments by county commissioners from around the state were similar and equally strong with most warning that a total collapse of the human service and county delivery system appears to be imminent. Our counties want state lawmakers to understand, to really understand, that their lack of action is very real to the families, children, senior citizens and all those who greatly depend upon county government for assistance. During this time of great economic stress, the failure to pass a budget is going to harm those who are most in need."

During the forum, county after county expressed not only frustration with the budget impasse, but also serious concern with the widening financial and social ramifications of the state not having a budget. Counties are not being paid for critical services upon which thousands of Pennsylvania families depend each day. Kennedy said counties could not continue to sustain the services without the commonwealth paying for its share of the very services it mandates counties provide.

CCAP BUDGET MOTION  
First and Last Add

“Counties are facing great challenge. This is very real. We need state lawmakers to take action now. As the leader of this Association, I am proud to make a strong voice for all the counties statewide and for the thousands of Pennsylvania’s families who face such great and unfair uncertainty. We urge the General Assembly and the Governor to do their jobs,” Kennedy said.

The County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) is the voice of county government, a statewide, nonprofit, nonpartisan Association representing all of Pennsylvania’s 67 counties. CCAP membership includes the county commissioners, council members, county executives, administrators, chief clerks and solicitors.

CCAP strengthens the counties’ abilities to govern their own affairs and to improve the well-being and quality of life for every Pennsylvania resident. It advocates for favorable state and federal legislation, programs and policies on behalf of counties. CCAP is committed to service excellence through education, information, insurance, technology and other programs that support effective county government.

CCAP’s legislative and regulatory policies promote flexibility and autonomy for county government. CCAP supports county leadership that is responsive to the needs and circumstances of the people. CCAP stands against state and federal actions that limit fiscal, administrative or programmatic authority over those developed locally.

Founded in 1886, CCAP is an affiliate of the National Association of Counties.

For more information about Pennsylvania’s counties and CCAP, visit our Web site, [www.pacounties.org](http://www.pacounties.org).

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