



GPNP Statement

Senate Bill 4

Senate Bill 4 is a proposed *constitutional amendment* that will have deep and significant impact on the nonprofit sector and the delivery of important services to our communities.

GPNP believes that:

- 1) Act 55 is a good basis for determining purely public charity status. The nonprofit sector relieves the burden of the government, provides charitable services, and advances charitable missions. Nonprofits exist on a compilation of varied revenue sources, one of which includes significant public dollars and as such, many nonprofits are appropriately eligible for property tax exemption as a purely public charity under the Act 55 definitions.
- 2) If the intention of the bill is to reinstate Act 55, there is there no need to transfer the power from the judiciary to the general assembly. This transfer of power raises the question of why? The transfer of power from the courts to the general assembly is concerning and seems to offer:
 - a. Higher degree of uncertainty from one legislative session to the next,
 - b. Increased possibility for government overreach
- 3) Nonprofit organizations as a whole function best when in partnership with the public sector as community problem solvers.

GPNP: The Greater Pittsburgh Nonprofit Partnership is a committed advocate for the nonprofit sector in its entirety. The nonprofit sector represents large scale service providers to small grassroots organizations. The sector provides invaluable services in the community that otherwise would not be available or affordable through the private or public sectors.