



TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Labor and Industry Committee

FROM: Alex Halper, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: June 22, 2021

RE: Support bills in Committee

The PA Chamber urges support for the following bills scheduled for committee consideration today.

S.B. 147: Employers can qualify for discounted workers' compensation insurance rates by forming safety committees and educating employees on various aspects of workplace safety. This bill will help encourage prescription drug addiction education and awareness within the workforce by directing committees to educate workers on the risk of prescription drug abuse and opioid addiction.

We appreciate amendments adopted in the Senate directing the Department of Labor & Industry to notify employers of the new requirement and make resources available to help comply.

H.B. 536: Employers, workforce professionals and educators are increasingly citing the apprenticeship model as an important component to addressing workforce challenges and enhancing individuals' employability. This legislation would modernize Pennsylvania's Apprenticeship and Training Act to encourage more apprenticeship programs, including by updating journeyman to apprenticeship ratio standards and helping facilitate more apprenticeships among small businesses.

We urge you to support these bills. Please contact Alex Halper at ahalper@pachamber.org or 717-645-8730 with questions or to discuss.