



TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House of Representatives

FROM: Alex Halper, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: June 14, 2021

RE: Support H.B. 508 – Encourage employment and economic recovery

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On behalf of the PA Chamber I urge support for H.B. 508, to help encourage employment and Pennsylvania's economic recovery. We understand the House may consider the bill this week.

H.B. 508 would phaseout Pennsylvania's participation in federal unemployment compensation enhancement programs and implement a Back-to-Work bonus to encourage employment. Businesses, nonprofits and others are reporting significant workforce shortages, which threatens to further disrupt the economy.

While numerous factors contribute to workforce challenges, employers increasingly reference the \$300 weekly federal enhancement as a disincentive to work since many are making as much or more in benefits as they were in wages. At least 25 states have taken actions similar to H.B. 508 and Pennsylvania risks losing ground on the road to economic recovery.

We urge you to support this bill. Please contact Alex Halper at [ahalper@pachamber.org](mailto:ahalper@pachamber.org) or 717-645-8730 with questions or to discuss.