



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

FROM: Alex Halper, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: September 29, 2021

RE: Support bills in Committee

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

H.B. 1819: Clarifies unemployment compensation eligibility in response to feedback from employers who report job applicants skipping job interviews or otherwise failing to put forth a good faith effort to obtain employment. This misuse of the program is unfair to both employers and legitimate UC claimants and we support this legislation to codify existing Department of Labor & Industry guidance denying eligibility for those not legitimately seeking work.

H.B. 1829: Provides a remote option for minors to obtain a work permit, rather than requiring the process be done in person. This requirement was temporarily waived during the pandemic and we support its permanent suspension in order to help facilitate employment for Pennsylvania's youth.

H.B. 1837: Ends the requirement of two witness signatures or a notarized signature on a workers' compensation Compromise and Release Agreement, if the claimant submits a sworn statement acknowledging understanding of the agreement. This bill is another example of modest regulatory reform provided temporarily during the pandemic that has proven beneficial and should be made permanent.

Please contact Alex Halper at [ahalper@pachamber.org](mailto:ahalper@pachamber.org) or 717-720-5471 to discuss or with any questions.