



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

FROM: Alex Halper, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: February 23, 2021

RE: Support bills in committee

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On behalf of the PA Chamber of Business and Industry I urge you to support several bills scheduled to be considered in committee today:

**S.B. 69:** This bill would support state agencies, local workforce development boards, support services providers and employers partnering to launch Recovery-to-Work pilot programs that help facilitate employment for individuals in recovery. This legislation will help Pennsylvanians overcoming addiction, for whom employment is often critical to sustaining long-term recovery; and also help employers address workforce challenges.

**S.B. 147:** This bill would encourage greater awareness in the workplace of the threat posed by addictive prescription drugs and opioids. Currently, employers can qualify for discounted workers' compensation insurance rates by forming certified safety committees. This legislation would ensure employers are including opioid and addiction awareness education and direct the PA Department of Labor & Industry to make helpful resources available.

**S.B. 168:** This bill would require the PA Department of Labor & Industry to collect and publish data on emerging and projected future employment sectors in the Commonwealth. Compiling and making this information available to the education and workforce communities will help students and incumbent workers better understand the future employment landscape and make informed decisions around their education and training.

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