



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

FROM: Alex Halper, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: June 15, 2021

RE: **Oppose H.B. 262 workplace anti-vaccination/anti-testing bill**

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On behalf of the PA Chamber I urge you to oppose H.B. 262, which would prohibit employer medical testing and vaccination requirements. The committee is scheduled to consider the bill today.

Pennsylvania employers have been confronted with unthinkable challenges over the last 15 months – some were inevitable in a pandemic; others the result of, or made worse by, misguided public policy including unclear mandates, state and federal law inconsistencies and the threat of unfair lawsuits. Perhaps most disheartening has been the relentless message to employers that government does not trust them and government knows best how they ought to manage their workplace.

H.B. 262 encompasses these themes. Employers will be forced to adopt new policies that diminish safety, increase the risk of workplace disruption, are inconsistent with federal law and are more fraught with the potential for costly and unfair lawsuits.

This bill sends the wrong messages: hostility to employers desperate for relief; validating unfounded rejection of public health measures; and a lack of commitment to encouraging Pennsylvania's economic recovery.

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