

Chambers of Commerce Support UC Tax Fix

October 24, 2022

To the Honorable Member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly:

On behalf of our chambers of commerce we write to urge your support for legislation to help employers avoid an unfair increase to their unemployment compensation (UC) taxes. Multiple bills have been introduced to address this situation and we understand S.B. 1083 is the likely vehicle.

According to the Department of Labor & Industry, around 2,700 Pennsylvania employers are being assessed a UC tax increase based on two factors: 1) they were forced into a prolonged pandemic-related shut down; and 2) they had previously earned a lower, experience-based UC tax rate by avoiding layoffs over the years.

Under current law, an employer who reports no payroll in one of the last three years loses their experience-based rating and reverts to the higher default tax rate. Businesses who were compelled to shut down during the pandemic should not receive a tax increase and it is particularly unjust that this policy impacts those employers with a history of avoiding layoffs.

We urge you to support legislation, including S.B. 1083 as amended, to provide a targeted, temporary exemption so employers forced to shut down during the pandemic can maintain the positive experience-based UC tax rating they have earned.

Thank you.

Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry
African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania
Alle Kiski Strong Chamber of Commerce
Beaver County Chamber of Commerce
Bedford County Chamber of Commerce
Blair County Chamber of Commerce
Butler County Chamber of Commerce
Cambria Regional Chamber
Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce
Chamber of Business and Industry of Centre County
Chamber of Commerce for Greater Montgomery County
Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia
Chamber of the Northern Poconos
Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry
Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry
Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce
Cumberland Valley Business Alliance
Delaware County Chamber of Commerce
Downingtown Thorndale Regional Chamber of Commerce
Eastern Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership
Exton Region Chamber of Commerce
Fayette Chamber of Commerce
Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce
Greater Latrobe-Laurel Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce
Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce
Greater Reading Chamber Alliance
Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce
Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce
Greater Wyoming Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greencastle-Antrim Chamber of Commerce
Greene County Chamber of Commerce
Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce
Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC
Indian Valley Chamber of Commerce
Indiana County Chamber of Commerce
Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce
Lancaster Chamber
Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce
Main Line Chamber of Commerce
Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce
Norwin Chamber of Commerce
Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce
Peters Township Chamber of Commerce
Phoenixville Regional Chamber of Commerce
Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce
Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce
Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce
Somerset County Chamber of Commerce
South West Regional Chamber of Commerce
Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce
Venango Area Chamber of Commerce
Warren County Chamber of Business and Industry
Washington County Chamber of Commerce
West Shore Chamber of Commerce
Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce
Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce
Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce
Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce
York County Economic Alliance

