

**To:** Honorable Gov. Shapiro and Members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly

**Date:** May 8th, 2023

**Re: Support HB 350: Reforming Pennsylvania's Permit Process**

**From:**

**Chambers 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 of Commerce  
Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce  
Chamber of Business and Industry of Centre  
County  
Chamber of Commerce for Greater  
Philadelphia  
Chester County Chamber of Business &  
Industry  
Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry  
Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce  
Exton Region Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Chambersburg Chamber of  
Commerce  
Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Reading Chamber Alliance  
Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce  
Greencastle- Antrim Chamber of Commerce  
Greene County Chamber of Commerce  
Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce  
Harrisburg Regional Chamber  
Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce

Indian Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Lancaster Chamber of Commerce  
Monroeville Chamber of Commerce  
Norwin Chamber of Commerce  
Perry County Chamber of Commerce  
Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of  
Commerce  
Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber  
Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce  
Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce  
Somerset County Chamber of Commerce  
Southern Chester County Chamber of  
Commerce  
Southwest Regional Chamber of Commerce  
TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce  
Venango Area Chamber of Commerce  
West Shore Chamber of Commerce  
York County Economic Alliance

**Pennsylvania Employer Associations**

Associated Builders and Contractors-  
Keystone Chapter  
Anthracite Region Independent Power  
Producers Association  
API Pennsylvania

Associated Builders and Constructors of Western PA	Pennsylvania Builders Association
Associated Pennsylvania Constructors	Pennsylvania Chemical Industry Council
Broadband Communications Association of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Coal Alliance
Consumer Energy Alliance	Pennsylvania Coalition for Civil Justice Reform
Energy Association of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association
Keystone Contractors Association	Pennsylvania Forest Products Association
Life Sciences Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association
Manufacturer & Business Association	Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association
Marcellus Shale Coalition	Pennsylvania Medical Society
National Federation of Independent Business	Pennsylvania Motor Trucking Association
Pennsylvania Aggregates and Concrete Association	Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association
Pennsylvania Association of Realtors	Pennsylvania Telephone Association

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**Dear Honorable Governor Shapiro and Honorable Members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly,**

On behalf of chambers of commerce and associations representing the state's key industries and professions, we collectively urge the administration, House and Senate to fix the commonwealth's dysfunctional and unpredictable permitting system. Doing so will result in greater opportunity for our residents, a modernized system of infrastructure, and encourage more investment into our state.

Pennsylvania has tremendous potential to lead the region and nation in a dynamic 21st century economy. However, as has been made clear throughout budget hearings, the commonwealth has too often lost out on investment to other states, and our inadequate permitting system is one key factor. The current process takes too long, lacks transparency, and costs businesses money and good-paying jobs for our state's workers.

Lawmakers and the administration have increasingly recognized how the state's existing permitting process is a major obstacle to new and expanded investment, and we appreciate those focusing on permitting reform as a priority, including in the Governor's budget address and discussions with cabinet nominees before House and

Senate appropriations committees. We further support executive action already taken related to permitting and encourage the administration and General Assembly to work collectively, build on executive orders and improved management, and enact durable and lasting reforms to the state's permitting process.

Permitting reform will unlock a more efficient and modernized system of public infrastructure, facilitate re-shored investment into advanced manufacturing, and provide more opportunity for hardworking Pennsylvanians.

Reform should be built upon the tenets of predictability, transparency, efficiency, and durability, leveraged against a state budget that ensures adequate resources in terms of personnel and information technology. Now is the time to coalesce around meaningful reforms that will allow our state to truly compete and lead. Doing so will build upon bipartisan momentum at the federal level to streamline permitting and unlock American investment.

We have a generational opportunity to meaningfully change the economic trajectory of our state and communities. We stand ready to partner with you all as you tackle this important challenge.

**Thank you for your consideration on this critical issue!**