



TO: The Honorable Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee

FROM: Kevin Sunday, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: May 9, 2023

RE: Support SB 350 - Permitting Reform

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, the largest, broad-based business advocacy organization in the Commonwealth, representing nearly 10,000 member companies of all sizes from across all commercial and industrial sectors, I write to strongly encourage you to **vote yes on SB 350**, which streamlines permit approvals across agencies.

Pennsylvania has lost out on significant new and expanded investment due to a protracted and challenging permitting process that does not provide clarity and certainty to the regulated community. With major manufacturers looking to shore up supply chains and relocate out of Europe and China, it is imperative Pennsylvania provide a welcoming regulatory environment. SB 350 builds upon Gov. Shapiro's initiatives to better manage the permitting process, which we applauded, by codifying the Governor's Office of Transformation and Opportunity into law and also by providing for timelines for permits to receive a decision. If the agency does not act or invoke its option to send the application for review by a third-party, the permit will be deemed approved. Similar "shot clocks" limiting how long agencies can deliberate on permits were codified into recent bipartisan legislation at the federal level, including bills funding infrastructure and defense spending.

This approach is part of the PA Chamber's [permitting reform plan](#) and was also endorsed by the Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades Council in a [joint op-ed with the leaders of both organizations](#) that ran in various outlets earlier this year. Yesterday, the PA Chamber [joined 68 leading industry associations and chambers of commerce](#) in urging the Governor and legislature to enact meaningful permitting reform this session.

We urge your support for this important legislation.

For any questions, please contact Kevin Sunday, Director of Government Affairs, at ksunday@pachamber.org or 717 645-2071.