

TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Health Committee
FROM: Alex Halper, Vice President, Government Affairs
DATE: September 27, 2023
RE: Support H.R. 143 Study of Pennsylvania's COVID-19 Response

I write on behalf of the PA Chamber to express support for H.R. 143 to conduct a study of Pennsylvania's COVID-19 response, which is scheduled to be considered by the Committee this week.

The stated goal of the study is to learn from the Commonwealth's response to the COVID-19 pandemic so that we are better prepared should another similar emergency occur. We agree with this goal and thank the sponsors for including employers in the conversation.

Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, employers proved their commitment to ensuring healthy communities by innovating their business models and investing in the best practices that would help them financially survive the pandemic, maintain payroll to support their people and continue serving their customers. Along with learning to expect the unexpected, employers also learned that every new government mandate came with questions about how to achieve compliance.

We look forward to sharing the experiences of our members and the lessons learned along the way.

Thank you for considering our views on this important matter. Please contact Alex Halper at <u>ahalper@pachamber.org</u> or 717-645-8730 with questions or to discuss.