

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

FROM: Alex Halper, SVP, Government Affairs

DATE: April 16, 2024

RE: Oppose HB 2153 – Increasing local construction costs

On behalf of the PA Chamber, I urge you to oppose H.B. 2153, which would expand the Prevailing Wage Act and is scheduled for committee consideration this week.

The PA Prevailing Wage Act requires pre-determined wages to be paid to employees on public construction projects and can often complicate project execution and substantially increase costs. H.B. 2153 proposes a significant expansion by applying the law to custom fabrication work. We have concerns from both a taxpayer perspective, as significant cost increases on school districts and local governments can lead to property tax hikes, and on behalf of custom fabrication companies, who have expressed concerns with the impact on their workplace.

We urge you to oppose this bill. Please contact Alex Halper at <u>ahalper@pachamber.org</u> or 717-645-8730 with questions or to discuss.