



TO: The Honorable Members of the PA State Senate
FROM: Alex Halper, SVP, Government Affairs
DATE: April 29, 2024
RE: Support S.B. 1109 to improve Unemployment Compensation

On behalf of the PA Chamber, I urge you to support S.B. 1109 to improve administration of the Unemployment Compensation law's work search requirement. We understand the bill may be considered by the Senate this week.

Unemployment compensation claimants are generally required to actively search for work, apply for and accept geographically convenient positions in their field. Unfortunately, employers report interviewing job candidates who admit they are only applying to comply with the work search requirement and often fail to show up for job interviews or work, known as "ghosting."

SB 1109 would clarify UC eligibility standards to codify that an individual is not eligible for benefits if they discourage their own employment. This legislation would not impact the vast majority of UC claimants who are utilizing the program appropriately and actively seeking employment.

Employers of all sizes and industries continue to report difficulty hiring. This workforce crisis is holding back PA's economy, and employers are looking to lawmakers to advance policies that help unemployed Pennsylvanians, and bills like S.B. 1109 that encourage people into the workforce.

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