

TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Education Committee

FROM: Aaron Riggleman, Manager, Government Affairs

DATE: May 12, 2025

RE: **PA Chamber memo: Support H.B. 1404 & 1405 - Recruitment of CTE Instructors**

I write on behalf of the PA Chamber to urge support for H.B. 1404 & 1405 which we understand may be considered before the Education Committee today.

HB 1404 will increase the length of time that future teachers and Career and Technical Education (CTE) educators can utilize an intern certification from three years to five years. HB 1405 will allow veterans' service experience in a specific occupational area to count toward the credits necessary for a CTE Instructional I certification.

Employers across the Commonwealth continue to report challenges in filling open positions with qualified applicants, particularly in the skilled trades. At the same time, CTE centers are experiencing high demand for enrollment — so much so that they have been forced to turn away applicants due to shortages of instructors and classroom space. H.B. 1404 and H.B. 1405 each offer meaningful relief to individuals seeking to enter the classroom and help educate Pennsylvania's next generation of skilled workers.

We sincerely appreciate the prime sponsors' attention to this important issue and respectfully urge the committee to advance these pieces of legislation.

Please contact Aaron Riggleman at ariggleman@pachamber.org or 724-640-3290 with questions or to discuss.

[Click here](#) to check the PA Chamber Legislative Scorecard.
