

TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Consumer Protection, Technology & Utilities Committee

FROM: Amy Brinton, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: June 17, 2025

RE: **PA Chamber memo: Hold off consideration of H.B. 1496**

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On behalf of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry (PA Chamber), representing nearly 10,000 member companies of all sizes from across all commercial and industrial sectors, I am writing to ask that the Committee hold off consideration of HB 1496, which is scheduled for a Committee vote today.

As other stakeholders may have also brought to your attention, Pennsylvania's price gouging law still presents challenges in the post-COVID era. The current law imposes broad pricing restrictions on all consumer goods and services, regardless of their relevance to the specific emergency, affecting manufacturers, distributors, and retailers statewide. While HB 1496 aims to provide local governments with more control over emergency declarations, the core statute remains overly expansive and lacks clarity, creating ongoing uncertainty for the business community.

It is for these reasons that we urge the Committee to hold off consideration of HB 1496.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Please contact Amy Brinton via email at [abrinton@pachamber.org](mailto:abrinton@pachamber.org) or at 717-720-5565 should you have any questions or concerns.

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