

TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Aaron Riggleman, Manager, Government Affairs

DATE: September 22, 2025

RE: PA Chamber memo: Support H.B. 728 - Removing Re-entry Barriers

I write on behalf of the PA Chamber to urge support to H.B. 728 which we understand will be considered before your Committee today.

This legislation would require the Department of Corrections to work with the Department of Transportation and Department of Human Services to ensure individuals leaving incarceration are provided with a driver's license, state ID, or work permit.

Pennsylvania employers continue to face persistent workforce shortages across industries. Yet many individuals returning from incarceration—who are ready and willing to work—cannot even apply for a job without a valid form of identification. By providing IDs at the point of re-entry, this legislation removes a key barrier that keeps willing workers on the sidelines and out of the labor force.

For employers, this is about expanding the pool of available talent and connecting people with jobs at a time when workforce gaps are holding back growth. A smoother re-entry process benefits not only these individuals but also the businesses and communities that need them.

For these reasons, the PA Chamber urges support for this legislation. Please contact Aaron Riggleman at ariggleman@pachamber.org or 724-640-3290 with questions or to discuss.

<u>Click here</u> to check the PA Chamber Legislative Scorecard.