



TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Neal Leshner, Vice President, Government Affairs

DATE: June 8, 2026

RE: **PA Chamber memo: Oppose HB 1913 and HB 2462**

On behalf of the PA Chamber of Business and Industry I urge you to oppose House Bills 1913 and 2462, which are scheduled for a vote by the committee this morning.

HB 1913 – Arguing Non-economic Damages at Trial

This legislation would allow attorneys to suggest and argue for specific dollar amounts and mathematical formulas for non-economic damages during closing arguments in civil trials. This would divert from longstanding practice in Pennsylvania that leaves the evaluation of non-economic damages to juries, without unfair or arbitrary influence.

Pennsylvania’s legal climate is already in crisis with growing examples of nuclear verdicts, rising litigation costs, rampant venue shopping, liability expansion, and soaring medical malpractice insurance costs. HB 1913 seeks to give plaintiffs’ attorneys another tool to push awards even higher, while placing the defense into a no-win situation – arguing over specific damages while maintaining their client’s innocence.

HB 2462 – Removing Liability Waivers for Recreational Facilities

This legislation would invalidate liability waivers and assumption-of-risk agreements whenever a plaintiff alleges that a recreational facility lacked certain safety equipment or properly trained personnel.

It expands litigation exposure by creating additional avenues to challenge otherwise valid liability waivers, which have long been recognized by Pennsylvania courts. The bill creates new broad and subjective standards relating to the use of items such as surveillance cameras, AEDs, first-aid-kits, and various categories of trained personnel.

The result of this legislation will be recreational facilities facing greater litigation risk, increased insurance premiums, and higher operational costs, which will ultimately make it less affordable for Pennsylvania consumers and families to visit recreational facilities.

For any questions or further discussion, please contact Neal Leshner, Vice President of Government Affairs, at nlesher@pachamber.org or 717-507-9240.

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