



TO: The Honorable Members of the PA Senate Labor & Industry Committee
FROM: Alex Halper, SVP, Government Affairs
DATE: January 17, 2025
RE: Support S.B. 153 to improve UC System

The PA Chamber urges you to support S.B. 153. to improve administration of Unemployment Compensation work search requirement. The bill is scheduled to be considered in committee today.

Unemployment compensation claimants are generally required to actively search for work, apply for and accept positions in their field. Unfortunately, employers report interviewing job candidates who admit they are only applying to comply with the work search requirement, or never show up for the interview or work, known as “ghosting.”

S.B. 153 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. 153 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.