

TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Labor & Industry Committee

FROM: Alex Halper, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs

DATE: February 4, 2025

RE: Oppose H.B. 183 – Increasing costs on your employers

The PA Chamber urges you to oppose H.B. 183, which the Committee is scheduled to consider this week. This legislation will significantly increase workers' compensation insurance costs on your local employers.

Under Pennsylvania's workers' compensation law, employers are responsible for paying medical costs and wage-loss benefits for individuals who get hurt or sick on the job, regardless of fault, and additional benefits for various reasons, including if an injury results in a scar. H.B. 183 drastically expands this benefit beyond its original purpose, disrupting a benefit structure that has been in place for over 100 years and provides for annual benefit increases.

We urge committee members to consider the unintended but likely consequences of this legislation, including discouraging healthy employees from returning to work, creating an environment in which patients will actually be pressured into getting surgery, and significantly increasing costs on employers.

We urge you to oppose H.B. 183. Please contact Alex Halper at <u>ahalper@pachamber.org</u> or **717-645-8730** to discuss or with any questions.

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