

11 Stanwix Street, 17th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-1312

(412) 392-4500
pittsburghchamber.com

Richard J. Harshman
Chair

Sue Schick
Vice Chair

Daniel S. Wilson
Secretary/Treasurer

Dewitt M. Peart
President

Dennis Yablonsky
Chief Executive Officer

K. Scott Baker
David E. Barenfeld
G. Andrew Bonnewell
Todd D. Brice
William Carnahan
J. Randolph Cheetham
Frank Coonelly
John R. Denny
Mark DeRubeis
Shawn Fox
Kevin J. Garber
Troy Harris
Donna Hudson
Tommy Johnson
Renee Jones
Thomas F. Lamb, Jr.
Deborah P. Lippert
Christopher J. Masciantonio
Terrence J. Murphy
Dan Onorato
Eugene J. O'Sullivan
Gabe Pellathy
William Roland
Arthur J. Rooney, II
Edward Stack
Brian N. Turk
Dennis Unkovic
Tim White
Erica Clayton Wright
Susan Zemba

October 6, 2014

Dear Honorable Members of Pennsylvania Senate:

On behalf of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to encourage your support for House Bill 1846, legislation that would help to control costs associated with the workers' compensation system without compromising care or access to medication. HB 1846 was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives in April and voted favorably from the Senate Labor & Industry Committee in July.

HB 1846 would reform the Pennsylvania Workers Compensation Act to address the higher costs associated with prescription drugs that are dispensed by a prescribing physician rather than a pharmacy. Specifically, the bill ensures that caps on reimbursement rates cannot be evaded and sets a 20 day limit on the duration physicians can dispense most types of medication and a seven day limit on more powerful prescription drugs.

Expenses related to workers' compensation premiums directly affect the bottom line of every business. Many other states have acted to limit the practice of physician prescription-dispensing while maintaining readily available and quality care.

The Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce joins stakeholders and business organizations from across the state in urging a favorable vote on this measure to help control workers' compensation costs and assure affordable, accessible, quality care for all.

Sincerely,



Dewitt Peart
President, Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce