



# GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY



ADVANCING THE MANUFACTURING AND SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITIES

JUNE 2017

## Meeting with Rep. Mike Turzai, Speaker, PA House of Representatives



(Left-to-Right) Bob Graham, Ted Rogers, Jean DeFilippis, David Fair, Rep. Turzai and Abraham Moosa

SMC was very fortunate to have Representative Mike Turzai, (R-28) Speaker of the House, PA House of Representatives, meet with a small group of members and guests on May 19th at SMC Cranberry. The Representative graciously offered a “make-up” session for a missed meeting in Harrisburg on May 8th.

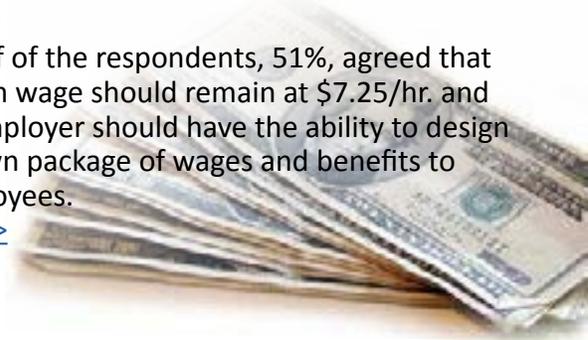
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## Results of SMC’s Minimum Wage Survey

Governor Wolf called for an increase in the minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$12.00 per hour in his 2017-2018 budget, effective on July 1 with no phase-in period. In 2016 SMC stated that a minimum wage increase should not be mandated and recommended that businesses set their own total compensation package of wages and benefits to remain competitive and attract talent. SMC conducted a minimum wage survey and 10 organizations participated. The number of respondents totaled over 450. The goal was to determine where small employers stand in regard to Governor Wolf’s mandated increase.

- Of the respondents only 10% currently pay entry level employees the minimum wage of \$7.25/hr. The majority (55%) pay an entry wage of \$7.50 to \$10.75/hr.
- Just over half of the respondents, 51%, agreed that the minimum wage should remain at \$7.25/hr. and that each employer should have the ability to design his or her own package of wages and benefits to attract employees.

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## The Harrisburg Grassroots Lobbying Trip, May 8, 2017

by Eileen Anderson, Director, Government Relations

Twenty-five members and guests spent the afternoon on Capitol Hill. SMC’s 4 teams had meetings scheduled with 24 lawmakers and Governor Wolf’s Director of Policy and Planning. Some points addressed during the meetings included: need for state pension reform; impact of a mandated increase in the minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$ 12.00/hour; the workforce shortage; and surprise billing/balance billing. To view SMC’s 2017 State Position Papers go to <http://smc.org/services/issues-advocacy/>.

### Reports from Teams 1-4

The meetings are led by the team captain and lawmakers/staff respond. Below are the predominant issues discussed. Some issues have seen action since May 8th.

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PA Manufacturers Association (PMA)

