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Working Together to Advance PA's Competitiveness Through Bipartisan Leadership

As Chambers of commerce, our efforts to drive Pennsylvania's economic competitiveness forward require more than good ideas, but unyielding collaboration between business leaders and policymakers. Since its formation early last year, the PA Competitiveness Caucus – a bipartisan, bicameral group of lawmakers – has been spearheading those efforts, working steadily with the PA Chamber toward enacting policies that will fast-track Pennsylvania's economic growth.

The Competitiveness Caucus has already grown to over 50 members and has held a number of productive meetings statewide to discuss with local business leaders the policies needed to attract more investment into Pennsylvania.

Most recently, the Competitiveness Caucus's effectiveness was showcased at two events: the PA Chamber's inaugural Policy Summit in Harrisburg and a Competitiveness Caucus roundtable in Allentown that focused on startups and small businesses. Together, the events underscored how member-driven advocacy and bipartisan leadership are shaping a stronger business climate across the Commonwealth.

At the PA Chamber's inaugural Policy Summit, where more than 300 leaders from PA Chamber Investor Member organizations joined lawmakers and policy experts in Harrisburg, Caucus co-chairs Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill (R-York), Sen. Lisa Boscola (D-Lehigh), Rep. Josh Kail (R-Beaver), and Rep. Paul Friel (D-Chester) participated in a panel discussion that reinforced the Caucus's shared commitment to fostering a stronger, more competitive economic climate regardless of party affiliation.

During their conversation, PA Chamber President and CEO Luke Bernstein pointed to bipartisan progress in recent years on tax reform, permitting efficiency, and workforce development – goals of our Chamber collective - and credited the Competitiveness Caucus with helping keep pro-growth reforms front and center in Harrisburg.

“The work of the Competitiveness Caucus has helped drive that momentum by leading efforts to modernize our tax code to support startups and small businesses, streamline permitting and regulatory reviews, and invest in our workforce,” Bernstein said.

That same philosophy carried into a recent Pennsylvania Competitiveness Caucus roundtable in Allentown, hosted by Sen. Nick Miller (D-Lehigh) at the Allentown Economic Development Corporation's Bridgeworks Enterprise Center. The discussion brought together a bipartisan, bicameral group of lawmakers - alongside business leaders and

economic development partners - to examine how state policy can better support startups, small businesses, and long-term growth.

Taken together, the Policy Summit and the Allentown roundtable illustrate how the Competitiveness Caucus is committed to working with chambers across the Commonwealth in lockstep, pairing business-led insight with bipartisan legislative action to deliver results that matter in communities across Pennsylvania.

And by convening employers, lawmakers, and policy experts around shared goals, the PA Chamber continues to ensure that businesses of all sizes - from startups and small firms to global employers – have a seat at the table shaping policies that encourage investment, job creation, and sustainable growth. Our chambers' close partnership with the Pennsylvania Competitiveness Caucus helps to ensure that voice is translating into tangible progress toward a more competitive Commonwealth.