

OP-ED FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Female Chamber Leaders Applaud Budget Compromise, Urge Continued Collaboration for Pennsylvania's Future

As presidents of four of Pennsylvania's leading chambers of commerce—the Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry, the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce, the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce, and the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia—we share a deep commitment to advancing opportunity and prosperity in our communities. Our chambers collectively represent tens of thousands of businesses, nonprofits, and employees across the region, and we see firsthand the real impact Harrisburg's decisions have on everyday Pennsylvanians.

Today, we are encouraged to see that Pennsylvania's leaders have come together to deliver a long-awaited state budget. While the process has not been easy, the result demonstrates that compromise is possible, and that when our elected officials put people over politics, the Commonwealth moves forward.

This budget agreement means schools can continue to educate, counties and municipalities can plan for the future, and the nonprofit organizations that care for our most vulnerable residents can resume their work with certainty. Businesses, already navigating a complex economy, can move ahead with renewed confidence, knowing that our state's leaders have worked together to provide the clarity and stability our economy needs.

We want to thank the members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Administration for putting aside partisan divides and demonstrating the kind of leadership that strengthens our economy and communities. Compromise is not a weakness. It is the very essence of governing. This moment is proof that progress is possible when we listen, collaborate, and prioritize the needs of the people we serve.

As women leaders representing diverse counties across Southeastern and Central Pennsylvania, we know firsthand the power of partnership. The challenges facing Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, and Philadelphia do not stop at county lines, and neither should our solutions. A strong Pennsylvania depends on a unified Pennsylvania.

However, as we applaud this moment, we also urge our leaders to remember the lessons of this moment. The work of compromise must not begin only after deadlines pass: it should define the process from the start. Let this budget serve as a reminder that collaboration and communication must continue year-round so that when June 30, 2026, arrives, Pennsylvania's next budget can be passed on time.

A healthy economy depends on partnership; when policymakers, businesses, and communities move in step, Pennsylvania prospers. Today's budget deal is a victory not for one party or region, but for every Pennsylvanian who depends on stability, good governance, and a growing economy. Let's carry this spirit forward. Pennsylvania's future depends on it.