

PACP October Column
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Helping Keep Voters Informed This Election Season

The 2020 General Election is right around the corner and the outcome of this election will have a significant impact on how the state moves forward amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. This November, all of the seats in the House and half of the seats in the Senate will be on the ballot. It is critical to the Commonwealth's economic recovery that we elect state lawmakers who will prioritize policies that encourage business investment and reinvestment while ensuring that businesses are operating in adherence to state and CDC-issued safety guidelines.

As part of our annual "Get Out the Vote" efforts, in September we were pleased to unveil our new, online [Legislative Scorecard](#). This interactive tool highlights how members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly voted on key pieces of legislation impacting the Commonwealth's business community over the course of the 2019-20 legislative session; and also shows their career voting record on such proposals. The Legislative Scorecard homepage lists the sitting state legislators, along with their 2019-20 legislative session and career voting scores. A more detailed analysis – including an overview of all bills that were meaningful enough to the business community to be "scored" by the PA Chamber – can be found by clicking on the lawmakers' name and viewing their individual profile. Users can easily identify the PA Chamber's position on the respective bill, as well as how the lawmaker voted. The PA Chamber communicated its position to legislators prior to votes taken on the bills that were used to calculate the overall lawmakers' score.

Another useful tool for voters leading up to Election Day on Tuesday, Nov. 3 is a comprehensive voter resource page that is now available on the PA Chamber's [website](#). The page includes links for voters to locate their polling place; apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot; determine who represents them at the state and federal level; and also includes a link to ChamberPAC's endorsed state legislative candidates.

As we get ever closer to the 2020 General Election, we're pleased to be offering Pennsylvania's entire business community with a free, virtual event, "Bringing PA Back: RISE to the Challenge," which will take place from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29. A featured segment will delve into 2020 Election insights at both the state and federal level with national reporter, columnist and author Salena Zito and television and radio host, columnist and author Michael Smerconish. The program will also include a special update from former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge on the upcoming election and the VoteSafe initiative; as well as a conversation with the U.S. Chamber's Emerging Issues Senior Vice President Michael Carney on the path forward in 2021. Last, but certainly not least, the program will include an update on the next steps of our "Bringing PA Back" pandemic recovery initiative. Registration and further details about the speakers are available on the [PA Chamber's website](#). We hope you will join us for this dynamic and informative program!

As the saying goes, "elections have consequences." At this pivotal point in our nation's history, is more critical than ever that we work together to ensure pro-business candidates are elected to office. I encourage you to join in our "Get Out the Vote" efforts by encouraging your employees, family, friends

and neighbors make their voices heard this election, and to highlight the candidates who are the most focused on working with the private sector to get Pennsylvania back on the right economic track.

Gene Barr
President and CEO
PA Chamber of Business and Industry

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