



SMC Business Councils
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June 8, 2011

Honorable Rick Saccone
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
B15 Main Capitol Building
PO Box 202039
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Saccone,

We write to you on behalf of the several thousand small business members of SMC Business Councils to express our strong support of SB 1030, PN 1293, a bill that provides a necessary first step in bringing fairness and equity to our unemployment compensation system. This vote is a key vote for business.

The provisions in SB 1030, PN 1293 will make Pennsylvania's UC system more consistent with other states by requiring that claimants search for work and by strengthening fraud provisions so that those who most need benefits are able to receive them. The bill also increases the minimum weekly benefit to claimants and ensures that employees who have severance agreements in place with their employers prior to the effective date of the legislation will be able to collect their severance and their UC benefits at the same time.

Most importantly, passage of this legislation in a timely manner will guarantee that Pennsylvania changes its unemployment compensation rules to meet federal guidelines and ensure that claimants continue to receive their benefits.

Passage of SB 1030, PN 1293 without amendment will begin the process of saving our UC system while safeguarding fairness for claimants.

Please vote "yes" on SB 1030, PN 1293, without amendment. Thank you for considering the views of SMC Business Councils and the employers and employees we represent.

Sincerely

Thomas Henschke
President
SMC Business Councils

Eileen Anderson
Government Relations manager
SMC Business Councils