

**OUTLINE OF PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE**

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Pennsylvania's Business Regulatory Climate and Job Creation

Scott Sheely, Executive Director

Lancaster County Workforce Investment Board

Overview

- An overview of how the recession has affected the workforce numbers in Lancaster County;
  - Unemployment rate;
  - Size of the workforce;
  - Long-term unemployed;
  - Older workers
- Most of our problems revolve around too many people out of work...
  - Long-term unemployed;
  - Continued high job churning;
  - Low-income folks transitioning off of welfare;
  - Ex-offenders;
  - Returning veterans
- ...and not enough jobs being created
  - Very low levels of entrepreneurial start-ups (PA is last in the nation according to the Kauffman Foundation);
  - Traditional solutions to job creation such as credits to employers and on-the-job training support do not work (report produced by McKinsey Global);
  - Not enough opportunities for training and work experience (transitional jobs);
  - Not enough qualified workers in the career paths that employers need.
- Ideas for how to affect job growth through changes in legislation and regulation
  - Encourage entrepreneurship
    - Relax rules that take people off of UI if they start a new business
    - Provide incentives for investors to pool resources to provide funding for high-risk start-ups
    - Increase collaboration among providers of entrepreneurial resources
  - Explore new ways to help people with barriers transition back into employment
    - Encourage collaborations among service providers to form social enterprises as training venues for jobseekers that also produce revenue to run the program
    - Mesh traditional job training with work experience so that people have more realistic expectations of employers and so that employers have a chance to see jobseekers in action
  - Refocus efforts of education and training providers on jobs that are needed in regional economies

- Stop producing oversupply of persons trained in jobs that we don't need
- More focus on jobs that we do need (particularly technical jobs)
- Increase skill level of all workers