

# **ADVOCACY UPDATE**

The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce is a significant voice of and for business and has an obligation to represent the interests of its members. The Chamber supports public policy that encourages entrepreneurship, development, investment, and job creation. We oppose public policy that creates unnecessary regulation that will negatively impact the business climate and the creation of jobs.

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## Minimum Wage Credit Bill Moves to Committee

Members Asked to Take Action

The Chamber proudly joined the Chambers All In for Economic Recovery Coalition this year. We are very excited to inform you that a bill filed as part of the <a href="2022 Chambers All In for Economic Recovery Platform">2022 Chambers All In for Economic Recovery Platform</a> has been moved to committee! With hundreds of bills filed ever year in Illinois, making it to committee is a milestone that many bills never see. Now the hard work begins, and we need your help to move this bill forward.

#### The Bill

HB 5320 is a minimum wage credit bill that the Chambers All In for Economic Recovery Coalition filed in January. The bill amends the Illinois Income Tax Act to restructure the Minimum Wage Credit's incremental phase-out and allow small businesses to capture the original intent of the credit. The bill would restore the credit to its original 25% for the next three calendar years. The Minimum Wage Credit offsets withholding taxes for eligible businesses (those with 50 or fewer full-time equivalent employees).

#### **Taking Action**

Now that <u>HB 5320</u> has been assigned to the Revenue and Finance Committee, the Committee is accepting witness slips. A witness slip is a document that shows a person or group's position on a particular bill and can be filed by an individual or organizations/businesses. Witness slips can be filed for any bill scheduled for a hearing in an Illinois House or Senate Committee and can be filed during the week prior to the hearing taking place.

Legislators place a high value on hearing from their constituents. Hearing from businesses and business owners on legislation related to business is imperative. By filing a witness slip and making your voice heard, you are taking an active part in this coalition's effort to provide economic recovery to businesses across Illinois.

### Filing a Witness Slip

Filing a witness slip does not have to be an intimidating process at all and we want to make it as easy for you as possible.

We have included a <u>one-page document</u> with all the information that you need to file a witness slip in support of <u>HB 5320</u> as an attachment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mike Murphy, President & CEO at <a href="mmurphy@gscc.org">mmurphy@gscc.org</a> or 217/525-1173 x-205. As a part of the Chambers All In for Economic Recovery Coalition, we also have access to a knowledgeable network of Chamber leaders working alongside us in this effort. They would be happy to speak to any of you or assist as well.

Thank you for taking action today and for your leadership in the Illinois business community!