

For Immediate Release: Thursday, March 22, 2018 Contact: Steve Roberts (304) 342-1115

W.Va. Chamber Applauds House Passage of Government Spending Bill

Charleston, W.Va. – The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce applauds the U.S. House of Representatives for passing a \$1.3 trillion government spending bill on Thursday. The final vote on H.R. 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, was 256-167, with a majority of both Republicans and Democrats voting to support the measure.

West Virginia Chamber President Steve Roberts stated, "We appreciate the members of the U.S. House of Representatives who voted for this spending bill. This is an important step towards keeping our government open and funding critical programs for our country. This bill contains several items important to West Virginia, including \$4 billion in funding to address the country's opioid crisis, and \$21 billion for much-needed infrastructure projects."

H.R. 1625 now moves to the U.S. Senate. Senators must act by tomorrow at midnight, as funding for the federal government runs out at that time. Once approved by the Senate, the measure will head to President Trump's desk.

Roberts concluded, "The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce is encouraging the U.S. Senate to immediately take up H.R. 1625 and send it to the President. This bill received strong bi-partisan support, with a majority of the members of both parties voting in favor. The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce thanks Congressman David B. McKinley and Congressman Evan Jenkins for voting in favor. I encourage Senator Capito and Senator Manchin to stand with President Trump, the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman McKinley, Congressman Jenkins, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce and support an immediate vote in favor of H.R. 1625."

Members of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce are your small business neighbors. Chamber members employ over half of our state's workforce and are found in every county and region of our state.