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## **W.Va. Chamber Celebrates Nation-Leading Personal Income Growth**

**Charleston, W.Va.** – West Virginia led the nation in personal income growth in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2019 according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce is pleased to see West Virginia’s personal income growth at 5.6%, leading all other states in the union.

West Virginia Chamber President Steve Roberts stated, “the latest news from the Bureau of Economic Analysis is quite welcome in West Virginia. In the past few years, policymakers in our state have maintained a laser focus on creating jobs and improving the economy, and this is just the latest in a long line of evidence that it is working.”

According to data from the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics, West Virginia was among the top half of the country for the last three quarters of 2018 in job creation. West Virginia had not enjoyed job growth of that nature since the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2012.

A report last week from Workforce West Virginia also showed that West Virginia’s employment numbers in May 2019 represented the best May since 2009.

Roberts continued, “When you look at wage growth and job growth from reputable, unbiased sources, it is clear that West Virginia is on the right path. We couldn’t be happier with the wage growth we are seeing in West Virginia, because this is a direct benefit to our hard-working families and will do so much to lift the quality of life in the Mountain State”

Roberts concluded, “The West Virginia Legislature deserves special credit for enacting policies that led to the success we are seeing today. I encourage all to continue this momentum as we work towards a brighter future for our children.”

*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.*

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