TESTIMONY SCRIPT BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE JUDICIARY
COMMITTEE
February 27, 1996
Al Taubenberger

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the House Judiciary Committee. My name
is Al Taubenberger and I am the President of the Greater Northeast Philadelphia Chamber
of Commerce.

The chamber was founded in 1922 and we are a private business organization of over 800
members dedicated to the success of our community and our members and the free
enterprise system.

Our program includes monthly networking opportunities, group health insurance as well
as other group purchasing service arrangements. A membership directory and community
buyers guide. Business Seminars and individual business counseling through SCORE,
Senior Core of Retired Executives.

80% of our membership is made up of small businesses with employment numbers ranging
from 1-10 employees. These are businesses evolved in the service industry, retailing,
manufacturing and numerous other programs.

For these small businesses getting the best and most accurate information on a potential
employee is crucial to their very survival.

Each new hire with many of these companies represents a very large part of their work
force. A growing Company with only three employees hires a forth, that person
represents 25% of the work force.

A bad hire at those percentages could cause great harm to the company.

It is essential for these small companies to be able to hire with confidence, by having the
most accurate and detailed information available from the past employers.

On behalf of my membership of 800 plus and also knowing of the thousands of small businesses through out the Commonwealth I believe **House Bill 1972** is essential for a more positive business climate in Pennsylvania, we enthusiastically support its passage. We must allow our small businesses to hire with confidence.

I Thank you for your support.