



DEC 03 2010

Senate of Pennsylvania

December 3, 2010

**TO:** All Senators

**FROM:** Senator Robert D. Robbins

**SUBJECT:** Invitation for Co-Sponsorship  
**Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children**

In the near future, I will be re-introducing legislation -- the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children -- which will authorize Pennsylvania to enter into an Interstate Compact to make education more accessible to children of military families and make educational transfers and transitions more uniform and less stressful.

Specifically, the Interstate Compact provides a comprehensive policy approach and mechanism to address the major areas of education that are affected such as the transferring of education records, course sequencing, graduation requirements, extra-curricular activities testing, enrollment and power of custodial parents and guardianships during deployments. The Compact was developed and drafted by the Council of State Governments with the U.S. Department of Defense Office of Personnel and Readiness.

The average military student faces transition challenges more than twice during high school and most military children will have six to nine different school systems in their lives from kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

As of today, 35 states -- AL, AK, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MI, MS, MO, NV, NJ, NM, NC, OH, OK, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA and WI -- have already joined the compact.

This legislation will be the same as Senate Bill 213 of the previous session. Previous cosponsors were: Baker; Boscola; Browne; Brubaker; Costa; Earll; Erickson; Ferlo; Folmer; Fontana; Greenleaf; O'Pake; Orië; Pileggi; Pippy; Rafferty; Stack; Tartaglione; Tomlinson; Washington; Waugh; D. White; M. White; Williams and Wozniak.

If you wish to cosponsor this legislation, please call my office at 787-1322 or email Chris Yniguez of my staff at [cyniguez@pasen.gov](mailto:cyniguez@pasen.gov).