



Senate of Pennsylvania

TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator Edwin B. Erickson *EBE*

DATE: December 22, 2010

SUBJECT: Cosponsorship of Legislation – Private Residential Rehabilitative Institutions

Currently, private residential rehabilitative institutions (PRRIs) are not provided for under the definition of school grounds or school facilities even though they house, educate and train students and employ teachers and other professionals practicing in the academic fields at these facilities. As a result, aggravated assault and criminal trespass protections afforded to traditional schools have not been uniformly applied to PRRIs pursuing legal relief.

Therefore, I will be introducing legislation to amend two criminal statutes in Title 18 to bring private residential rehabilitative institutions within their purview. First, the bill amends §2702 to provide the staff of such facilities aggravated assault protection. Second, my legislation would amend §3503 to prohibit criminal trespass on the grounds or in buildings of any of the Commonwealth's 22 private residential rehabilitative institutions.

My legislation guarantees that the protections currently afforded to students and teachers/professionals operating on traditional school grounds are likewise applied to the students and professionals who reside and work at PRRIs, whereby the very nature of these types of facilities this type of bad behavior or illegal activity is more likely to take place.

If you would like to join me in sponsoring this legislation, please contact Linda Kauffman at 7-1350 or [lkauffman@pasen.gov](mailto:lkauffman@pasen.gov).