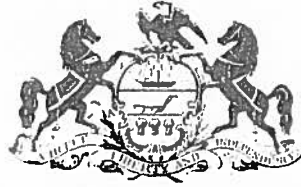


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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

**CHAIRMAN, HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES COMMITTEE**

POLICY COMMITTEE

CAUCUSES

FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY SERVICES
LOCAL TAX REFORM
RURAL HEALTH CARE
SPORTSMEN
TIMBER

APPOINTMENTS

STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT
COUNCIL ACT - REVIEW COMMITTEE
CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

TO: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM: REP. MATT BAKER
REP. MIKE HANNA

DATE: FEBRUARY 2, 2011

RE: PROPOSED LEGISLATION-
HIGHER EDUCATION MODERNIZATION ACT

In the near future, we plan to introduce legislation which would enhance economic development opportunities for PASSHE universities, faculty and students by allowing faculty to participate in entrepreneurial activities currently unavailable to them.

PASSHE universities are unable to contract with their faculty who have developed valuable and potentially marketable intellectual property and services that could be leveraged for the benefit of student, universities and the Commonwealth. Allowing the sharing of faculty expertise occurs at state-related institutions in the Commonwealth and their peers in public university systems throughout the country and therefore, our legislation would level the playing field across sectors of higher education.

The Higher Education Modernization Act will also create the ability for all PASSHE universities to offer applied doctorates. Under current law only Indiana University of Pennsylvania can offer doctorates and all other PASSHE universities are required to enter into a joint degree program with either IUP or another institution that offers doctoral level work.

The Act will also repeal an outdated statute which governed faculty hiring, etc. prior to the passage of Act 195 of 1970 known as the "Public Employee Relations Act" and Act 188 of 1982 creating the state system which provides, among other things, the power for the Board of Governors to enter into collective bargaining agreements.

If you are interested in joining us as a co-sponsor, please contact Gina Strine at 772-5371 or via email gstrine@pahousegop.com