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TO:

All Senators

FROM:

John C. Rafferty, Jr.

John T. Yudichak

RE:

State Related Universities Caucus

Recognizing the significance of Pennsylvania's exemplary state-related universities, which include nationally-renown teaching hospitals and distinguished law schools, Senator Yudichak and I are forming a State Related Universities Caucus to discuss state budget issues and other topics as they relate to Penn State University, the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, and Lincoln University.

The Pennsylvania State Related Universities are the cornerstone of higher education in the Commonwealth and offer exceptional educational opportunities to residents and non-residents alike. Considering the substantial role these universities play in providing a high quality education to students, it is also critical to note their vulnerability to funding shortfalls in the state budget. Given the meaning of these institutions to our state, it is imperative that we maintain the ability of all Pennsylvanians to receive a quality education at an affordable cost.

I urge you to join Senator Yudichak and myself in future discussions related to these universities. If you are interested in becoming a member of this caucus, please contact Cecilia Boyer by e-mail at <a href="mailto:cboyer@pasen.gov">cboyer@pasen.gov</a> or by phone at (717) 787-1398.

JCR/JTY