

## MEMORANDUM

To: All Members of the House of Representatives

From: Representative Jaret Gibbons

Date: August 2, 2012

Subject: **Campus Police: State System of Higher Education**

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In the near future, I will be introducing a package of bills affecting Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PSSHE) campus police officers.

The first bill would amend the Public School Code of 1949 by expanding the primary jurisdiction for PSSHE campus police officers to include within 500 yards of the grounds of the institution. The other two pieces of legislation would amend Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes and the Administrative Code of 1929 by including PSSHE campus police officers in the definitions for "campus police," "college," "university," and "police department."

The purpose of my legislation is to afford PSSHE campus police officers the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as campus police officers for Penn State University, Temple University, and other state-aided or state-related schools. Under current law, the PSSHE campus police officers are required to undergo the same annual training on the crimes code, vehicle code, and criminal procedure as other campus police officers, but are not given the same jurisdiction. Furthermore, under my package of bills, PSSHE campus police officers would be given the ability to respond to requests for assistance from the local community when the local police department or the state police are unable to respond immediately. If you would like to co-sponsor this important legislation, please contact Susan Finger in my Harrisburg office at 717-705-2060 or at [SFinger@pahouse.net](mailto:SFinger@pahouse.net).