



Raging Chicken Press <ragingchickenpress@gmail.com>

Draft Secession Legislation for PASSHE Universities

Raging Chicken Press <ragingchickenpress@gmail.com>

Wed, Feb 19, 2014 at 2:21 PM

To: rtomlinson@pasen.gov

Dear Senator Tomlinson,

It has been over a week since I sent my last email inquiring about your draft legislation allowing for PASSHE universities to secede from the state system. I still have not heard back from you or your staff. I am including that email below. If I don't hear from you or your staff by tomorrow morning, I will run with what I have.

Best,
Kevin Mahoney

Kevin Mahoney
Editor and Founder, Raging Chicken Press
@RCPress

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On Wed, Feb 12, 2014 at 2:46 PM, Raging Chicken Press <ragingchickenpress@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Senator Tomlinson,

I am not sure if you received my previous email asking you for comment on your draft legislation allowing for individual PASSHE universities to secede the state system.

As I understand it your proposed legislation includes the following:

- Applies to PASSHE universities with 7,000 or more students
- A university that chooses to secede would become a state-related university (presumably a part of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education)
- A PASSHE university that desired to secede would have to present a business plan showing that the university would be viable as a state-related university
- A PASSHE university that secedes would have to pay the state back for real estate and buildings; they would have 30 years to do so.
- There are no provisions for faculty continuing their current relationship with the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties (APSCUF) or any other union. Faculty would have to conduct a new union drive IF they decided that was a direction they wanted to go.

I also understand that you have been working closely with Senator Dinneman on this legislation and that he will introduce this legislation even if you do not.

I have a few questions:

1. Is my outline of the legislation essentially correct?

2. Do you plan on introducing this legislation when the Senate comes back into session on March 10?
3. Have you already circulated co-sponsorship requests yet? If so, how many co-sponsors do you expect?
4. Why have you decided to bring this legislation forth at this time?
5. How would you characterize the response from faculty to your proposal, specifically those with whom you've met with at West Chester? Have you met with faculty and/or presidents at other PASSHE universities as well?

Thank you in advance for your time. If you have staff member that you think would be useful to talk to as well, please forward their information.

Sincerely,

Kevin Mahoney

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Editor and Founder, Raging Chicken Press
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