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**SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

**Todd Richardson**

State Representative  
District 152

March 17, 2016

Mr. Leroy Wade, Interim Commissioner  
Coordinating Board for Higher Education  
205 Jefferson Street  
P.O. Box 1469  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-1469

Dear Mr. Wade,

In light of recent discussions at the Capitol about degree programs and approval process, the mission of Missouri's four-year public institutions, and the filing of SB1088 and HB2622, we are asking the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) and the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) to facilitate a meeting of the stakeholders on these issues and begin the process of reviewing the current structure of public higher education in Missouri.

This meeting should include representatives from Missouri's public 2 and 4-year institutions as well as national experts with knowledge of funding patterns, college missions, and statewide higher education structures.

We would ask that this conversation begin in the coming weeks and include discussions on, but not be limited to the following issues, recommendations on the overall structure of public 2 and 4 year institutions, varying institutional missions and degree review and approval processes. Depending on the outcome of this meeting we will determine how to proceed on further discussions and pending legislation before the General Assembly.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Richardson  
Speaker of the House

Stephen C. Cookson  
Chairman of Higher Education Committee  
District 153