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NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Keith New, 717-720-2509
knew@pheaa.org

**Rep. Mike Peifer and Sen. Wayne D. Fontana
Re-Elected Chair & Vice Chair of PHEAA Board of Directors**

Harrisburg, PA (February 21, 2019) – The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) announced today that Representative Mike Peifer has been re-elected as Chairman of the PHEAA Board of Directors. Senator Wayne D. Fontana was re-elected as Vice Chairman of the Board.

Serving his seventh term, Representative Mike Peifer has represented the 139th Legislative District in Pike and Wayne Counties since 2006. He currently serves as Chairman of the House Finance Committee and is a member of the Transportation Committee. He has been a member of PHEAA Board of Directors since 2010 and has served as Chairman since 2017.

"As a legislator, PHEAA Board member, and most importantly, a father, I understand how important it is to have access to an affordable higher education in Pennsylvania," said Representative Peifer. "Not just for those who are about to enroll, but for future generations who will have the peace of mind knowing that their academic achievement will not be hindered by lack of affordable access."

PHEAA was created in 1963 by the Pennsylvania General Assembly with the mission of creating affordable access to higher education and has since evolved into one of the nation's leading student aid organizations.

PHEAA's business earnings are used to support its public service mission for the Commonwealth and to pay its operating costs, including administration of the Pennsylvania State Grant and other student aid programs. This saves taxpayers millions of dollars annually while ensuring that every dollar that the General Assembly appropriates to a student aid program goes directly to support Pennsylvania students.

Over the last ten years, PHEAA has provided nearly \$1 billion from its business earnings to directly supplement student aid programs for the Commonwealth.

(more)

“It’s an honor to serve once again as Vice Chairman of the PHEAA Board - especially considering the many difficult challenges that Pennsylvania families can face when planning for a higher education,” said Senator Wayne Fontana, PHEAA Board Chairman. “We are fortunate for the collective experiences that my colleagues on the Board bring to the table – including real-world education, finance, and business experience - that will help us address the evolving needs of today’s students and families.”

Senator Fontana currently serves as the Democratic Chair of the Senate Intergovernmental Operations Committee. He is also a member of the Community, Economic and Recreational Development, Urban Affairs and Housing, Law and Justice, Policy, and Rules and Executive Nominations committees.

PHEAA also announced that the following members have been elected to serve on the Board’s Executive Committee:

- Senator Robert M. Tomlinson (R-Bensalem) – Chairman
- Representative James R. Roebuck, Jr. (D-Philadelphia) – Vice Chairman
- Representative Sheryl Delozier (R-Mechanicsburg)
- Senator Vincent J. Hughes (D-Philadelphia)
- Honorable Roy Reinard (New Hope)
- Chancellor Timothy R. Thyreen

For more information, please visit PHEAA.org.

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