



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **PHEAA Welcomes Representative Michael Peifer to Board of Directors**

**Harrisburg, PA (March 16, 2010)** – The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) announced today that Representative Michael Peifer, Greentown, has been appointed to serve the remaining two years of former Representative Craig Dally's term on the PHEAA Board of Directors. Representative Dally resigned from the Board in January 2010 after being elected Northampton County Judge.

Representing the 139<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Monroe, Pike and Wayne Counties, Representative Peifer has been serving residents of his district since 2007.

A 1990 graduate of Rider College, New Jersey, Representative Peifer earned a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. He began his accounting career with Price Waterhouse LLP in 1991 and returned to Greentown in 1995 to open his own accounting and tax firm.

Representative Peifer is a member of the House Finance and Game & Fisheries Committees and serves as minority, Vice Chairman of the Gaming Oversight Committee.

Also active in his community, Representative Peifer serves as President, Pike County United Way, Treasurer, Pike County Republican Committee, Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairman, Hemlock Grove United Methodist Church and board member, Devereux Pocono Center.

"We welcome Representative Peifer to the PHEAA Board," said Representative William Adolph, Chairman, PHEAA Board of Directors. "I've known Mike since he joined the General Assembly in 2006 and his background in financial accounting will bring a knowledgeable perspective to the important higher education issues the PHEAA Board addresses on an ongoing basis."

"I look forward to working with members of the Board and PHEAA staff," said Representative Peifer. "An affordable higher education is so important to the future of our citizens and the economic vitality of the Commonwealth. I'm excited to help guide the important programs and services that PHEAA offers our students and families."

"Representative Peifer is an outstanding addition to our Board," noted Senator Sean Logan, Vice Chairman, PHEAA Board of Directors. "Serving on the Board is especially rewarding because we are able to help so many of our students and families. I am certain that Mike will embrace his new role in helping us fulfill PHEAA's important public service mission."

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The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) is one of the nation's leading nonprofit student aid organizations. PHEAA serves millions of students and thousands of schools through its student loan guaranty, loan servicing, financial aid processing systems and outreach/early awareness programs – including the \$403.6 million Pennsylvania State Grant program, which will assist more than 172,000 students during this school year. PHEAA funds the administrative costs of the State Grant and other state-funded student aid programs with money from its business earnings, saving taxpayers about \$11 million annually.

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#### **About PHEAA**

Created in 1963 by the Pennsylvania General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) has evolved into one of the nation's leading nonprofit student aid organizations. Today, PHEAA is a national provider of student financial aid services, serving millions of students and thousands of schools through its loan guaranty, loan servicing, financial aid processing systems, State Grant and outreach programs. As a nonprofit organization belonging to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, PHEAA devotes its energy, resources and imagination to developing innovative ways to ease the financial burden of higher education for Pennsylvania's students, families, schools and taxpayers.