

**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**July 23, 2002**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 10 A.M. THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2002**

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**STATE UNIVERSITIES BAND TOGETHER TO BENEFIT EDUCATION**

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.- A resolution backed by the presidents of Indiana's five major public universities and promising cooperation among those institutions to improve the state's educational system will become a working agreement during a signing ceremony July 25 at the Indiana Statehouse.

The Indiana Consortium of Education Deans brings together the leaders of the schools and colleges of education at Ball State University, Indiana State University, Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Southern Indiana to address issues facing Hoosier students from pre-school age through college.

Suellen Reed, Indiana's superintendent of public instruction, and Marie Theobald, executive director of the Indiana Professional Standards Board, will be on hand at 10 a.m. in the North Atrium of the Statehouse as the deans sign the agreement.

**WHO:** Roy A. Weaver, dean of Ball State's Teachers College; C. Jack Maynard, dean of Indiana State's School of Education; Gerardo M. Gonzalez, dean of Indiana University's School of Education; Jerry Peters, interim dean of Purdue University's School of Education; and C. Thomas Pickering, dean of the University of Southern Indiana's Bower-Surheinrich School of Education and Human Services.

**WHAT:** Indiana's state universities band together and sign an agreement to form a new consortium to work on educational issues such as charter schools, standards-based teacher preparation, and the transition to teaching program.

**WHEN:** 10 a.m., July 25, 2002.

**WHERE:** North Atrium, Indiana Statehouse.

**WHY:** Despite recent census figures that show significant progress in the educational levels of Hoosiers, the deans feel a combined effort to advance education will provide direct benefits to Indiana's schools, students, and the economic future of the state.

Sent to: Pat Swanson, Mt. Vernon Democrat, Fox 7, WEHT, WFIE, WIKY, WGBF, WKDQ, WNIN