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ROSENBERG ELECTED CHAIR OF HIGHER EDUCATION CAUCUS

State Senator Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst), President Pro Tem of the Massachusetts Senate, today was elected chairman of the Higher Education Caucus, a group of legislators he is organizing with State Representative Sean Garballey (D-Arlington) to focus on issues related to higher education.

“Our public higher education institutions didn’t cause our current fiscal crisis, but they will most certainly help lead us out it,” Rosenberg said. “If we don’t strengthen our public higher education system we run the risk of becoming a second-class state with a second-class economy. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues on this extremely important issue.”

Rosenberg was elected Senate chair, and Representative Garballey was elected House chair, during the Higher Education Caucus’ first meeting today at the State House. In addition to setting legislative and budget priorities for the 2011-2012 session, one of the issues the caucus will take up immediately is the 2011 Spring Project, a plan by caucus members to visit higher education campuses outside their districts.