

PAR clarifies Regents proposal

Wednesday, March 03, 2010

Re: "Expanding Regents not way to go," Your Opinions, Feb. 22.

A recent letter to the editor denounced PAR for reportedly recommending that the state Board of Regents be made bigger. What PAR actually recommended was that the state's Constitution and statutes be revised to establish the Board of Regents as the overall policy-setting agency for higher education.

In essence, PAR recommended the Board of Regents be given more authority to carry out higher education policy. Giving the regents more authority is not the same as making the board bigger.

On the question of the four higher education system boards, PAR suggested simply that a comprehensive study and public debate take place to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of consolidation.

Finally, the PAR report from which the recommendations were developed contains an extensive review of best practices in higher education governance. We invite anyone with an interest in the issue to review the report in more detail at our Web site at www.la-par.org.

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