



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NAACP PA and TIEC Support Senate Bill 1271
Trauma Informed Education in Pennsylvania**

Oct. 5: The NAACP Pennsylvania State Conference and Trauma Informed Education Coalition (TIEC) stand together in support of the joint legislation proposed by State Senators Vincent Hughes, D-Philadelphia, and Pat Browne, R-Lehigh, calling for a state wide “trauma-informed system of education”. We commend all co-sponsors on this bill and encourage its passage.

Nearly a decade of research has shown NAACP PA and TIEC the overall influence of psychological and emotional trauma on a school system. Research has demonstrated the negative impact on student performance, student removal from class, the loss of instructional time, teacher absenteeism due to secondary trauma, and the desperate disciplinary actions against children wounded by traumatic life experiences.

NAACP PA and TIEC have worked with educators and pupil-serving personnel across Pennsylvania to identify what is needed to help school boards, educators, administrators and other personnel who service students to address the system-wide issues brought on by trauma. We have come to recognize that unless the trauma is addressed first, schools will continue to struggle with students’ poor academic performance, their disruptive social behaviors and the secondary trauma experienced by persons who service students. Without addressing the psychological and emotional needs of our students, no school safety plan can be effective. Wounded students need restoration and resilience - not punishment.

NAACP PA and TIEC encourage all legislators to support this proposed legislation. It establishes a cohesive approach to trauma-informed education and much needed training for all school personnel.

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The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

The mission of the Trauma Informed Education Coalition is to ensure a trauma informed education system for all Pennsylvania’s students.