



September 14, 2008

Richard McCormick, President
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Old Queens - College Avenue Campus
83 Somerset Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
VIA E-mail: president@rutgers.edu
SIGNED HARD COPY IN THE MAIL

Dear Mr. President:

As a combat veteran myself, and someone who is deeply committed to providing young veterans the opportunity for education, housing and jobs upon their return from defending our freedoms in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other places around the world, I am writing today to ask for your help.

I'm respectfully writing to ask – in the strongest possible terms – that you take the necessary steps for Rutgers University to join the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) consortium in order to provide improved educational opportunities to our nation's veterans and active duty military members.

This issue was brought to my attention by a group of young men and women called Veterans for Education – most Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and students at Rutgers. They are truly a dedicated and inspirational group, who have returned home after service to our country and are quickly making their mark in civilian life.

As I'm sure you are already aware, SOC was created in 1972, and is a consortium of more than 1,800 colleges and universities throughout the United States where member colleges agree to accept each other's credits in transfer, making it easier for military families – many who frequently move from one state to another – and veterans juggling a young family, a job and college to more quickly complete their degree requirements.

According to their web site, SOC is cosponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities ([AASCU](#)) and the American Association of Community Colleges ([AACC](#)), in cooperation with 13 other educational associations, the Military Services, the

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National Guard, and the Coast Guard. SOC is funded by the Department of Defense (DoD) through a contract with AASCU. The contract is managed for DoD by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES).

For Rutgers – the State University of New Jersey – not be enrolled in SOC, when more than twenty-five other state institutions of higher learning are, just doesn't seem right. Rutgers can – and should – do better by our veterans and military families.

Thank you for taking time out of your day to read my letter, and allowing me to lend my voice to this important cause. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the 609 267-1850 or via email at join@chrismyersforcongress.com.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris

Chris Myers
Mayor of Medford Township
Candidate for Congress (NJ-3)

Paid for by Chris Myers for Congress