Representative Kris Hansen Named to WICHE’s Legislative Advisory Committee

Boulder, Colorado — Representative Kris Hansen has recently been named to the Legislative Advisory Committee (LAC, www.wiche.edu/lac) of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). Created in 1995, the LAC works to strengthen state policymaking in higher education in the West by engaging legislators in the discussion of higher education issues and seeking their input on strategies for interstate collaboration.

“I’m very much looking forward to serving on the LAC,” says Representative Hansen, whose term on the committee, which meets annually, will last three years. “It will be a great opportunity to contribute to a productive conversation about higher education in the West and to learn from my legislative colleagues in other states.”

Representative Hansen, along with Montana’s other LAC members – Senator Kim Gillan and Senator Bob Lake – was appointed by Montana’s delegation to the WICHE Commission: Clayton Christian, Montana’s commissioner of higher education; State Senator Kim Gillan; and Sheila Stearns, Montana’s commissioner of higher education emerita.

“Higher education in the West is at a critical juncture,” says WICHE President David Longanecker. “We need to respond to increasing demands, and now that budgets are beginning to rebound, we need to think deliberately about how we move forward in this region. Montana’s leadership in Lumina-funded work aimed at boosting higher education productivity places it in a unique position to explore new ways to improve higher education in the West. Representative Hansen and the state’s other LAC members will be invaluable in helping WICHE and its members move forward.”

About WICHE
The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (www.wiche.edu) and its 15 member states work collaboratively to expand educational access and excellence for all citizens of the West. By promoting innovation, cooperation, resource sharing, and sound public policy among states and institutions, WICHE strengthens higher education’s contributions to the region’s social, economic, and civic life. WICHE’s 15 member states include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawai’i, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

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April 24, 2012