

The Senate of West Virginia
Charleston

ERIC J. TARR
STATE SENATOR
4TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



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September 20, 2020

Office of the President:
Marshall University
West Virginia University

President's Gilbert and Gee,

I find it very disturbing that West Virginia University and Marshall University resources are being used to promote the very same hate speech that is inciting deadly and destructive riots, assassination of police officers, and denigration of our Republic. To this point West Virginia has been very blessed that our citizens have not accepted this anarchist behavior. That does not mean we are immune to it.

West Virginia University receives more than \$131 million from the tax payers of West Virginia. Marshall University receives nearly \$63 million of from the tax payers of West Virginia. A great many of those tax payers whom I represent in the West Virginia Senate detest that those very hard earned dollars are used to promote a domestic terrorist group on the helmets of West Virginia University athletes. Even further, it appears Marshall University professors are so brazen as to use Marshall's technology systems to call for the death of supporters of the President of the United States. These behaviors are inherently disgusting, but the use of law abiding tax payers' money against their very country, especially in light of the violence these movements have displayed, is beyond any excuse. So I expect that the people that have charged me with the responsibility to represent them would rather see those tax dollars either returned to them or used for a more honorable purpose.

I ask that you, as University Presidents, take a very public and very demonstrable stand against such use of tax payer resources that are meant to provide a better life for the citizens of West Virginia. The Universities with which you are charged to lead are the flagships of the great State of West Virginia. Please treat them as such, not as vehicles for anarchy or political propaganda.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eric J. Tarr".

Senator Eric J. Tarr

Vice Chairman of the Senate Committees on Finance and Health and Human Resources

Mike Azinger
Craig Blair, Senate Finance Chair
Donna Boley
Charles Clements
Sue Cline
Bill Hamilton
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Mike Maroney, Senate Health Chair
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