

PAS backing Khalid is its business, says Rafizi

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The PAS Syura Council's declaration of support for Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim is the party's "internal matter" and PKR will wait for the final decision of PAS from its central committee, says PKR director of strategy Rafizi Ramli.

"I think that is an internal PAS matter, we will wait for PAS (central committee) to decide.

"I was told that they have postponed their meeting to Aug 13. Then, the new process is to wait for PAS to officially come back to us with their decision.

"I think it's best to wait for that," Rafizi said at a dinner with Ampang residents last night when asked to comment on the Syura Council announcement.

Rafizi (right) pointed out that it was PAS' internal affair and "we have no business interfering in it".

Syura Council chairperson Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat and his deputy Haron Din said in a joint statement yesterday that the decision to support Khalid was based on public interest, which surpasses that of individuals and parties.

On the other hand, the PAS central committee meeting, which was initially set for Sunday, has been postponed to Aug 13.

Despite not explaining the reason for the postponement, PAS secretary-general Mustafa Ali, who made the announcement, told The Malaysian Insider that this was due to the "latest development" on the Selangor MB crisis.

Speculation is that PAS is observing whether PKR would sack Khalid if he ignores the order to attend the party disciplinary board meeting this afternoon.

On another note, talking into consideration that there are different voices in Selangor PKR over the MB replacement candidates, Rafizi said Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail was the only candidate picked by the party's central leadership council.

"PKR's official decision (on the substitute person for Selangor MB), is only Wan Azizah (left).

"This decision had been brought to the Pakatan Rakyat's presidential council. Let PAS and DAP take this issue back to their own parties for discussion."

If one wants to oppose the decision, the Pandan MP added, "it has to be brought back to the central leadership council for discussion again, and the previous decision will be cancelled".

He said until now nothing has been done about that.

Asked whether PKR would sack Khalid if he does not resign as menteri besar, Rafizi brushed the question aside, saying the best person to answer would be PKR disciplinary board chairperson Tan Kee Kwong.

PKR's disciplinary board has called Khalid to respond to the controversial issues that have prompted calls for him to be replaced.

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