

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 699

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman GARY S. SCHAER

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Senator Gordon, Assemblymen Mukherji, Calabrese, Holley,
Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttle, Assemblyman Johnson and
Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson**

SYNOPSIS

Allows certain students including undocumented immigrants who meet certain criteria to qualify for State student financial aid programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on March 13, 2018, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 4/13/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning eligibility for State student financial assistance
 2 programs and supplementing chapter 71B of Title 18A of the
 3 New Jersey Statutes.

4
 5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
 6 of New Jersey:

7
 8 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:71B-2 or
 9 any other law or regulation to the contrary, a student who meets the
 10 requirements of P.L.2013, c.170 (C.18A:62-4.4) ¹, or in the case of a
 11 student enrolled in an independent institution of higher education meets
 12 all of the requirements of P.L.2013, c.170 (C.18A:62-4.4) except for the
 13 requirement to enroll in a public institution of higher education,¹ is
 14 eligible to apply for, and participate in, any student financial aid
 15 program administered by the Higher Education Student Assistance
 16 Authority or the Secretary of Higher Education to the full extent
 17 permitted by federal law. The Legislature finds and declares that this
 18 section is a state law within the meaning of section 411(d) of the
 19 “Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
 20 1996” 16 (8 U.S.C. s.21(d)).

21 b. The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority and the
 22 Secretary of Higher Education shall establish procedures and forms
 23 that enable students who meet the requirements of ¹**[P.L.2013, c.170**
 24 **(C.18A:62-4.4)]** subsection a. of this section¹ to apply for, and
 25 participate in, all student financial aid programs administered by the
 26 Higher Education Student Assistance Authority and the Secretary of
 27 Higher Education to the full extent permitted by federal law. The
 28 procedures and forms shall be posted on the websites of the Higher
 29 Education Student Assistance Authority and the Office of the
 30 Secretary of Higher Education.

31 c. ¹The procedures and forms established by the Higher
 32 Education Student Assistance Authority and the Secretary of Higher
 33 Education pursuant to this section shall not discriminate against
 34 eligible students based on the immigration status or national origin of
 35 the student or the student’s parent or guardian.

36 d. Except as required by State or federal law, the Higher
 37 Education Student Assistance Authority and the Secretary of Higher
 38 Education shall not request information from any student about the
 39 citizenship or immigration status of the student or the student’s parent
 40 or guardian.

41 e.¹ The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority and the
 42 Secretary of Higher Education shall adopt rules and regulations
 43 pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410
 44 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted March 13, 2018.

S699 [1R] RUIZ, CUNNINGHAM

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- 1 2. This act shall take effect immediately and first apply to the
- 2 **【2017-2018】** 2018-2019 academic year.