

# SENATE, No. 762

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY**

**District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)**

**Senator ROBERT W. SINGER**

**District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Ruiz, Oroho, Madden, Pou and Brown**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires State Board of Education high school graduation requirements include instruction on tuition assistance programs and student loan debt; requires high school students to meet with guidance counselor to discuss tuition assistance and dual enrollment.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/2/2018)**

1 AN ACT concerning financial literacy for high school students and  
2 supplementing chapter 7C and chapter 36 of Title 18A of the  
3 New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. Beginning with the 2017-2018 grade nine class, the State Board  
9 of Education shall require that the high school graduation requirement  
10 on financial literacy includes instruction on available State and federal  
11 tuition assistance programs, including grants, scholarships, and student  
12 loans. The instruction shall incorporate issues associated with student  
13 loan debt, the requirements for repayment of that debt, and the  
14 consequences of the failure to repay student loan debt in a timely  
15 manner.

16  
17 2. A school district shall ensure that a student enrolled in high  
18 school meets with a guidance counselor during either the second or  
19 third year of high school to discuss State and federal tuition  
20 assistance programs, including grants, scholarships, and student  
21 loans, that may be available to the student to finance postsecondary  
22 educational opportunities. The guidance counselor shall also  
23 discuss the options available to the student for dual enrollment in  
24 the high school and an institution of higher education that will  
25 enable the student to earn college credit while still in high school  
26 and reduce the overall cost of a higher education.

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28 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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31 STATEMENT

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33 This bill provides that beginning with the 2017-2018 grade nine  
34 class, the State Board of Education will require that the high school  
35 graduation requirement on financial literacy include instruction on  
36 available State and federal tuition assistance programs, including  
37 grants, scholarships, and student loans. The instruction must  
38 incorporate issues associated with student loan debt, the requirements  
39 for repayment of that debt, and the consequences of the failure to  
40 repay student loan debt in a timely manner.

41 The bill also provides that a school district must ensure that a  
42 student enrolled in high school meets with a guidance counselor during  
43 either the second or third year of high school to discuss State and  
44 federal tuition assistance programs that may be available to the student  
45 to finance postsecondary educational opportunities. The guidance  
46 counselor must also discuss options available to the student for dual

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- 1 enrollment in high school and an institution of higher education that
- 2 will enable the student to earn college credit while still in high school
- 3 and reduce the overall cost of a higher education.