

ASSEMBLY, No. 5412

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

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Sponsored by:

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District 20 (Union)

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SYNOPSIS

Directs Secretary of Higher Education to conduct study to determine extent and cause of outmigration of high school graduates to out-of-State colleges.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/25/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning the outmigration of high school graduates to
2 out-of-State colleges.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. The Secretary of Higher Education, in consultation with the
8 Commissioner of Education, shall conduct a study to determine the
9 extent and causes of the outmigration of New Jersey's high school
10 graduates to out-of-State colleges and universities. The study shall
11 include, but need not be limited to:

12 a. a survey of high school seniors enrolled in public and
13 nonpublic schools in the State to determine the reasons why some
14 students choose a public or independent institution of higher
15 education in New Jersey and why some choose an out-of-State
16 institution;

17 b. a review of the academic characteristics of students who
18 choose an in-State institution and students who choose an out-of-
19 State institution;

20 c. a review of the socio-economic characteristics of the
21 families of students who choose an in-State institution and the
22 families who choose an out-of-State institution;

23 d. a review of the academic quality of the out-of-State
24 institutions at which New Jersey high school graduates choose to
25 enroll and a comparison of the academic ranking of those
26 institutions with New Jersey's public and independent institutions
27 of higher education;

28 e. a survey of and consultation with public and nonpublic high
29 school guidance counselors in order to receive their input on the
30 reasons for the outmigration of high school graduates;

31 f. an analysis of the extent to which the outmigration of high
32 school graduates is impacted by the small geographic size of the
33 State and the desire of college students to experience independent
34 living at a distance from their families; and

35 g. a review of available literature and data on the outmigration
36 of high school graduates in New Jersey and other states.

37
38 2. Within one year of the effective date of this act, the secretary
39 shall submit a report of its study to the Governor, and to the
40 Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1).
41 The report shall include, but need not be limited to, an overview of
42 the extent of the outmigration of New Jersey high school graduates,
43 the secretary's findings on the reasons for the outmigration, and the
44 secretary's analysis of what, if any, actions the State might take to
45 reverse the flow of students to out-of-State institutions.

46
47 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill directs the Secretary of Higher Education to conduct a study to determine the extent and causes of the outmigration of New Jersey's high school graduates to out-of-State colleges and universities. The study will include, but need not be limited to:

- a survey of high school seniors enrolled in public and nonpublic schools in the State to determine the reasons why a student might choose an out-of-State institution;
- a review of the academic characteristics of students who choose an in-State institution and students who choose an out-of-State institution;
- a review of the socio-economic characteristics of the families of students who choose an in-State institution and the families who choose an out-of-State institution;
- a review of the academic quality of the out-of-State institutions in which New Jersey high school graduates choose to enroll and a comparison of the academic ranking of those institutions with New Jersey's public and independent institutions of higher education;
- a survey of and consultation with public and nonpublic high school guidance counselors on the reasons for the outmigration of high school graduates;
- an analysis of the extent to which the outmigration of high school graduates is impacted by the small geographic size of the State and the desire of college students to experience independent living at a distance from their families; and
- a review of available literature and data on the outmigration of high school graduates in New Jersey and other states.

The bill requires the secretary to prepare and submit a report of the study's findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature within one year of the bill's effective date.