

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 135

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY

District 18 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Urges Governor and Board of Trustees of Rutgers, the State University, to appoint voting student representative to board of governors.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/27/2021)

AR135 STANLEY

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1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the appointment of a voting
2 student representative to the Board of Governors of Rutgers, the
3 State University.

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5 **WHEREAS**, The Board of Governors of Rutgers, the State
6 University, is vested with the control of the general operations
7 of the university, including the government, conduct,
8 management, and administration of the university; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Pursuant to N.J.S.18A:65-14, the power to make
10 appointments to the Board of Governors of Rutgers University
11 is vested with the Board of Trustees of Rutgers University,
12 which appoints seven of the 15 voting members from among its
13 own members, and with the Governor who, with the advice and
14 consent of the Senate, appoints eight of the 15 voting members;
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, Pursuant to N.J.S.18A:65-14, all members of the Board
17 of Governors of Rutgers University serve for terms of six years;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, Nothing in N.J.S.18A:65-14 prohibits a member of the
20 board of governors from stepping down from that board prior to
21 the expiration of the prescribed six-year term; and

22 **WHEREAS**, In addition to the voting members, the university has
23 voluntarily selected two faculty members and one student to
24 serve as non-voting representatives on the board of governors;
25 and

26 **WHEREAS**, No student has ever been nominated for appointment as
27 a voting member of the Board of Governors of Rutgers, the
28 State University; and

29 **WHEREAS**, The decisions made by an institution of higher
30 education's governing board, including issues concerning
31 curriculum, housing, and tuition and fees, directly impact the
32 daily lives of students; and

33 **WHEREAS**, Students bring important skill sets, perspectives, and
34 energy to institutional boards, and allowing students to serve on
35 an institution's governing board as full voting members more
36 adequately allows students to be recognized, provides a vehicle
37 for students to voice their opinions and concerns, and brings a
38 more balanced perspective to the deliberations of the governing
39 board; now, therefore,

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41 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
42 *Jersey:*

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44 1. This House urges the Governor and the Rutgers University
45 Board of Trustees to consider appointing a voting student member
46 to the Board of Governors of Rutgers, the State University.

1 2. This House further urges any student appointed to the Board
2 of Governors of Rutgers University to agree, upon taking office, to
3 remove himself as a member of the board of governors upon
4 completion of his studies.

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6 3. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
7 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the
8 Governor, the President of Rutgers, the State University, and to
9 each member on the Rutgers University Board of Trustees.

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STATEMENT

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14 This resolution urges the Governor and the Board of Trustees of
15 Rutgers, the State University, to appoint a voting student
16 representative to the Board of Governors of Rutgers University.

17 Under State law, the Rutgers University Board of Governors
18 consists of 15 voting members, eight of whom are appointed by the
19 Governor, and seven of whom are appointed by the university's
20 board of trustees from among its members. Although not statutorily
21 required to do so, Rutgers has voluntarily selected two faculty
22 members and one student to serve on the board as non-voting
23 representatives.

24 The decisions made by an institution of higher education's
25 governing board, including issues concerning curriculum, housing,
26 and tuition and fees, directly impact the daily lives of students.
27 Serving on an institution's governing board as full voting members
28 more adequately allows students to be recognized, provides a
29 vehicle for students to voice their opinions and concerns, and brings
30 a more balanced perspective to the deliberations of the governing
31 board.