

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 366

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Grants certain employment protections to campus police officers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee on May 20, 2021, with amendments.



1 **AN ACT** concerning campus police officers and supplementing Title
2 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
8 Legislature as this bill), a campus police officer means a law
9 enforcement officer appointed pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211
10 (C.18A:6-4.2 et seq.), '**but** and¹ shall '**not**' include a law
11 enforcement officer appointed by a county college.

12 b. Except as provided by section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.)
13 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) or any other law to the
14 contrary, a non-probationary campus police officer shall not be
15 removed from office, employment, or position for political reasons
16 or for any cause other than incapacity, misconduct, or disobedience
17 of rules and regulations established for the government of the police
18 agency, nor shall a campus police officer be suspended, removed,
19 fined, or reduced in rank from or in office, employment, or position
20 therein, except for just cause as hereinbefore provided and then
21 only upon a written complaint setting forth the charge or charges
22 against the officer.

23 c. The complaint shall be filed in the office of the person or
24 entity having charge of the police agency where the complaint is
25 made and a copy shall be served upon the officer charged, with
26 notice of a designated hearing thereon by the proper authorities,
27 which shall be not less than 10 or more than 30 days from date of
28 service of the complaint.

29 d. A complaint charging a violation of the internal rules and
30 regulations established for the conduct of a police agency shall be
31 filed no later than the 45th day after the date on which the person
32 filing the complaint obtained sufficient information to file the
33 matter upon which the complaint is based.

34 (1) The 45-day time limit shall not apply if an investigation of a
35 campus police officer for a violation of the internal rules or
36 regulations of the police agency is included directly or indirectly
37 within a concurrent investigation of that officer for a violation of
38 the criminal laws of this State. The 45-day limit shall begin on the
39 day after the disposition of the criminal investigation.

40 (2) The 45-day requirement for filing a complaint against an
41 officer shall not apply to a filing of a complaint by a private
42 individual.

43 e. The time periods established pursuant to subsections c. and
44 d. of this section shall be extended by any time period during which

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 SLP committee amendments adopted May 20, 2021.

1 a student, faculty member, or staff member who has relevant
2 information or testimony pertaining to the complaint or charge is
3 unavailable because:

4 (1) the institution is in recess; or
5 (2) the student, faculty member, or staff member is engaged in
6 out-of-State research, study, or teaching commitments.

7 f. A failure to comply with these provisions as to the service of
8 the complaint and the time within which a complaint is to be filed
9 shall require a dismissal of the complaint.

10 g. The campus police officer may waive the right to a hearing
11 and may appeal the charges directly to any available authority
12 specified by law or regulation, or follow any other procedure
13 recognized by a contract, as permitted by law.

14 h. The campus police officer or the police agency may request
15 a court reporter at a hearing. The party who requests the court
16 reporter shall bear the cost of the reporter.

17
18 2. The governing board of a 'county college or' four year
19 institution of higher education, if it deems necessary for reasons of
20 economy, may decrease the number of members and campus police
21 officers of the police department or force or their grades or ranks.
22 In case of demotion from the higher ranks, the campus police
23 officers or members to be so demoted shall be in the inverse order
24 of their appointment. When the service of members or campus
25 police officers is terminated, the termination shall be in the inverse
26 order of their appointment. Any member or campus police officer
27 who is demoted or whose service is terminated by reason of the
28 decrease shall be placed on a special employment list, and in the
29 case of subsequent promotions, a person so demoted shall be
30 reinstated to his original rank and in the case of termination of
31 service and new appointment, prior consideration shall be given to
32 the persons on the special employment list.

33
34 3. This act shall take effect immediately.