

SENATE, No. 1230

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Corrado, Gill and Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “New Jersey Higher Education Funding Formula Commission.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/10/2021)

1 **AN ACT** establishing the “New Jersey Higher Education Funding
2 Formula Commission.”

3

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

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7 1. There is established a New Jersey Higher Education Funding
8 Formula Commission. The commission shall consist of 11
9 members including: the Secretary of Higher Education, or a
10 designee, who shall serve ex-officio; the executive director of the
11 Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, or a designee, who
12 shall serve ex-officio; five members to be appointed by the
13 Governor including a representative of the State colleges and
14 universities established pursuant to chapter 64 of Title 18A of the
15 New Jersey Statutes, a representative of the public research
16 universities, a representative of the county colleges, a representative
17 of the independent colleges and universities, and one public
18 member; one member to be appointed by the President of the
19 Senate; one member to be appointed by the Minority Leader of the
20 Senate; one member to be appointed by the Speaker of the General
21 Assembly; and one member to be appointed by the Minority Leader
22 of the General Assembly.

23

24 2. It shall be the duty of the commission to:

25 a. examine higher education funding formulas in other states,
26 including a thorough review of performance-based funding
27 formulas, and identify best practices;

28 b. solicit and review detailed information from all of the
29 State’s institutions of higher education on their funding needs,
30 programs and operations, and outputs; and

31 c. develop a report that includes a higher education funding
32 formula for the State support of institutions of higher education.
33 The report may include such recommendations for legislative or
34 regulatory action as the commission deems appropriate.

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36 3. Appointments to the commission shall be made within 30
37 days of the effective date of this act. Vacancies in the membership
38 of the commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original
39 appointments were made. The members of the commission shall
40 serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement
41 for expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties
42 within the limits of funds made available to the commission for its
43 purposes.

44 The members of the commission shall hold their initial
45 organizational meeting as soon as practicable, but no later than 30 days
46 following the appointment of the members.

1 The commission shall choose a chairperson from among its
2 members and shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of
3 the commission.

4
5 4. Staff and related support services shall be provided to the
6 commission by the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education.
7 The commission shall also be entitled to call to its assistance and
8 avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county or
9 municipal department, board, bureau, commission or agency as it
10 may require and as may be available to it for its purposes.

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12 5. The commission shall issue a final report of its findings and
13 recommendations, including any recommended legislation, to the
14 Governor, the Senate Higher Education Committee, and the
15 Assembly Higher Education Committee no later than six months
16 after its organizational meeting.

17
18 6. This act shall take effect immediately and the commission
19 shall expire 30 days after the submission of the final report.

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22 STATEMENT

23
24 This bill establishes a New Jersey Higher Education Funding
25 Formula Commission. Under the bill, the commission will consist
26 of 11 members including: the Secretary of Higher Education, or a
27 designee, who will serve ex-officio; the executive director of the
28 Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, or a designee, who
29 will serve ex-officio; five members to be appointed by the Governor
30 including a representative of the State colleges and universities, a
31 representative of the public research universities, a representative of
32 the county colleges, a representative of the independent colleges
33 and universities, and one public member; one member to be
34 appointed by the Senate President; one member to be appointed by
35 the Minority Leader of the Senate; one member to be appointed by
36 the Speaker of the General Assembly; and one member to be
37 appointed by the Minority Leader of the General Assembly.

38 The duties of the commission will be to:

39 (1) examine higher education funding formulas in other states,
40 including a thorough review of performance-based funding
41 formulas, and identify best practices;

42 (2) solicit and review detailed information from all of the State's
43 institutions of higher education on their funding needs, programs
44 and operations, and outputs; and

45 (3) develop a report that includes a higher education funding
46 formula for the State support of institutions of higher education.
47 The report may include such recommendations for legislative or
48 regulatory action as the commission deems appropriate.

1 The bill directs the commission to issue a final report of its
2 findings and recommendations, including any recommended
3 legislation, to the Governor, the Senate Higher Education
4 Committee, and the Assembly Higher Education Committee no later
5 than six months after its organizational meeting. The commission
6 will expire 30 days after the submission of the final report.