

SENATE, No. 1525

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Appropriates \$300,000 from General Fund to New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station at Rutgers University.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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

74 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
30 Educational, Cultural, and Intellectual Development
36 Higher Educational Services

82-2415 New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station - Rutgers University.....	\$300,000
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Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation, Higher Educational Services	\$300,000

82 New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station	(\$300,000)
– Rutgers University.....	

18 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

23 This bill provides a supplemental appropriation of \$300,000
24 from the General Fund to the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment
25 Station at Rutgers University for the Veterans Environmental
26 Technology and Solutions (VETS) program.

The VETS program is an initiative that seeks to empower local unemployed veterans with environmental job skills. Local veterans receive an educational stipend while undergoing certified training programs in a range of sustainable landscaping, environmental, and business skills. New trainees learn through a combination of in-class lectures, site visits, and hands-on engagement within the community. The VETS program also provides resources to help participating veterans readjust to civilian life, become self-sufficient, and re-engage in their community through environmental improvement initiatives.

S1525 CRUZ-PEREZ, ADDIEGO

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1 The Essex County VETS program was established in 2014, as a
2 collaborative effort between the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural
3 Experiment Station Cooperative Extension, the Metropolitan
4 Resurrection Community Development Corporation, and the Lower
5 Passaic River Study Area Cooperating Parties Group.

6 The funds appropriated under this bill would be allotted to the
7 VETS program for the continuation and expansion of the program
8 now that program funding has ended.