

SENATE, No. 2584

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 15, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Makes changes to membership and responsibilities of Campus Sexual Assault Commission.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/27/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning the Campus Sexual Assault Commission and
2 amending P.L.2019, c.299.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c. 299 (C.18A:61E-7) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. There is established a Campus Sexual Assault
10 Commission in, but not of, the Department of State. The
11 commission shall consist of 12 members including:

12 (1) the Secretary of Higher Education, the Attorney General,
13 and the Director of the Division on Women in the Department of
14 Children and Families, or their designees, who shall serve ex
15 officio;

16 (2) five public members appointed by the Governor, including a
17 representative of the State colleges and universities established
18 pursuant to chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, a
19 representative of the public research universities, a representative of
20 the county colleges, a representative of the independent colleges
21 and universities, and a representative of the New Jersey Coalition
22 Against Sexual Assault; and

23 (3) four public members with demonstrated **[expertise or**
24 **interest]** research or practitioner experience in issues related to **[the**
25 **work of the commission, including at least one individual who is a**
26 **campus sexual assault survivor]** campus sexual violence, including
27 at least one student who is currently involved in campus sexual
28 assault education or advocacy. The President of the Senate, the
29 Speaker of the General Assembly, the Minority Leader of the
30 Senate, and the Minority Leader of the General Assembly shall each
31 appoint one of these public members.

32 b. The public members shall serve for a term of three years, but
33 of the members first appointed: three of the members appointed by
34 the Governor shall serve for a term of three years; one of the
35 members appointed by the Governor, the member appointed by the
36 President of the Senate, and the member appointed by the Speaker
37 of the General Assembly shall serve for a term of two years; and
38 one of the members appointed by the Governor, the member
39 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate, and the member
40 appointed by the Minority Leader of the General Assembly shall
41 serve for a term of one year.

42 c. Vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be
43 filled in the same manner as the original appointments are made and
44 a member may be eligible for reappointment. Vacancies occurring
45 other than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired
46 term.

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.

1 d. The members of the commission shall serve without
2 compensation but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses
3 necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties within the
4 limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the
5 commission for its purposes.

6 (cf: P.L. 2019, c.299, s.1)

7
8 2. Section 2 of P.L.2019, c. 299 (C.18A:61E-8) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 2. The commission shall organize as soon as practicable
11 following the appointment of its members, **[but no later than 60**
12 **days after the effective date of this act]** which shall take place
13 between 30 and 60 days after the issuance of the final report of the
14 Working Group on Safe and Inclusive Learning Environments
15 established pursuant to Executive Order No. 61 of 2019. The
16 commission shall choose a chairperson from among its members
17 and shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the
18 commission. The commission shall meet quarterly, at a minimum.

19 (cf: P.L. 2019, c.299, s.2)

20
21 3. Section 4 of P.L.2019, c. 299 (C.18A:61E-10) is amended to
22 read as follows:

23 4. It shall be the responsibility of the commission to further the
24 work of the Task Force on Campus Sexual Assault established
25 pursuant to P.L.2015, c.165. In particular, the commission shall:

26 a. study and evaluate emerging issues, policies, and practices
27 concerning campus sexual assault, dating and domestic violence,
28 and stalking on college campuses;

29 b. monitor the response to, and implementation of, the
30 recommendations put forth in the report issued by the task force
31 established pursuant to P.L.2015, c.165 and the Working Group on
32 Safe and Inclusive Learning Environments established pursuant to
33 Executive Order No. 61 of 2019;

34 c. supplement the findings and recommendations, as necessary,
35 of the report issued by the task force established pursuant to
36 P.L.2015, c.165;

37 d. **[develop and administer, in consultation with the Secretary**
38 **of Higher Education, a campus climate survey every three years]**
39 monitor the progress of, and offer technical assistance to,
40 institutions of higher education in implementing a campus climate
41 survey. An institution of higher education shall conduct a campus
42 climate survey every three years and submit the de-identified survey
43 data to the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education. The Office
44 of the Secretary of Higher Education shall share the findings with
45 the commission; and

1 e. develop an action plan every three years that includes
2 policies, programs, or procedures responsive to the issues and needs
3 identified **【in the】** by institutions of higher education from their
4 campus climate survey.

5 (cf: P.L.2019, c.299, s.4)

6
7 4. This act shall take effect immediately.
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10 STATEMENT
11

12 P.L.2019, c.299 (C.18A:61E-7 et seq.) established in, but not of,
13 the Department of State, a Campus Sexual Assault Commission.
14 This bill amends that law to:

- 15 • direct the commission to study and evaluate emerging issues,
16 policies, and practices concerning dating and domestic
17 violence and stalking on college campuses, in addition to
18 campus sexual assault;
- 19 • provide that the commission's members be appointed
20 between 30 and 60 days after the issuance of the final report
21 of the Working Group on Safe and Inclusive Learning
22 Environments established pursuant to Executive Order No.
23 61 of 2019;
- 24 • change the requirement that one of the four public members
25 appointed by legislative leaders be an individual who is a
26 campus sexual assault survivor to a requirement that one of
27 those four public members be a student involved in campus
28 sexual assault education or advocacy;
- 29 • provide that the commission also monitor the response to,
30 and implementation of, the recommendations put forth in the
31 final report of the Working Group on Safe Inclusive
32 Learning Environments. The current law requires the
33 commission to monitor the response to, and implementation
34 of, recommendations of the temporary campus sexual assault
35 task force established pursuant to P.L.2015, c.165; and
- 36 • remove from the commission's responsibilities a duty to
37 develop and administer, in consultation with the Secretary of
38 Higher Education, a campus climate survey every three
39 years. Under the bill, the commission will monitor the
40 progress of, and offer technical assistance to, institutions of
41 higher education in implementing campus climate surveys.
42 The institutions will conduct a campus climate survey every
43 three years and submit de-identified survey data to the
44 Office of the Secretary of Higher Education for use by the
45 commission.