

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 1731**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 28, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator VINCENT J. POLISTINA**

**District 2 (Atlantic)**

**Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Oroho and Zwicker**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes New Jersey Higher Education Student Advisory Commission.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Higher Education Committee on March 14, 2022,  
with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/14/2022)**

1 AN ACT establishing the New Jersey Higher Education Student  
2 Advisory Commission and supplementing chapter 3B of Title  
3 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. a. There is established a New Jersey Higher Education  
9 Student Advisory Commission in, but not of, the Department of  
10 State. The commission shall consist of <sup>1</sup>~~14~~ 15<sup>1</sup> members  
11 including: three student representatives from the State colleges and  
12 universities established pursuant to chapter 64 of Title 18A of the  
13 New Jersey Statutes, a student representative from each of the  
14 <sup>1</sup>~~four~~ five<sup>1</sup> public research universities, three student  
15 representatives from the county colleges, three student  
16 representatives from the independent colleges and universities, and  
17 one student representative from a proprietary degree-granting  
18 institution. The New Jersey Education Association shall appoint one  
19 member who is a member of the NJEA Preservice Program and  
20 represents any one of the higher education sectors, and the  
21 Secretary of Higher Education shall appoint the remaining  
22 members.

23 b. A student enrolled in an institution of higher education or a  
24 proprietary degree-granting institution in the State may submit an  
25 application to serve on the commission to the Secretary of Higher  
26 Education. The application shall detail the student's experience as  
27 a campus leader and shall include a letter of recommendation from  
28 the president of the institution of higher education or the proprietary  
29 institution at which the student is enrolled. The secretary in making  
30 the appointments shall attempt to provide a balanced representation  
31 of the geographic regions of the State.

32 c. Appointments to the commission shall be made for a term of  
33 one year, although the secretary may reappoint a student for  
34 additional terms. The secretary shall make every effort to ensure  
35 that at least one member is reappointed to the commission from the  
36 prior year's membership.

37 d. Vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be  
38 filled in the same manner as the original appointments are made.  
39 Vacancies occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be  
40 filled for the unexpired term.

41 e. The members of the commission shall serve without  
42 compensation but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses  
43 necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties within the  
44 limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the  
45 commission for its purposes.

**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:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SHI committee amendments adopted March 14, 2022.

- 1       2. The commission shall organize as soon as practicable  
2 following the appointment of its members, but no later than 60 days  
3 after the effective date of this act. The commission shall choose a  
4 chairperson from among its members and shall appoint a secretary  
5 who need not be a member of the commission. The commission  
6 shall meet a minimum of three times each year. The minutes of  
7 each meeting shall be posted on the Office of the Secretary of  
8 Higher Education's website.  
9
- 10       3. The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education shall  
11 provide such stenographic, clerical, and other administrative  
12 assistants, and such professional staff as the commission requires to  
13 carry out its work. The commission also shall be entitled to call to  
14 its assistance and avail itself of the services of the employees of any  
15 State, county, or municipal department, board, bureau, commission,  
16 or agency as it may require and as may be available for its purposes.  
17
- 18       4. It shall be the responsibility of the commission to advise the  
19 secretary on system-wide issues of concern to students. The  
20 commission shall annually report to the Assembly Higher Education  
21 Committee and the Senate Higher Education Committee, or their  
22 successor committees on the concerns, perspectives, and  
23 experiences of students attending institutions of higher education  
24 and proprietary degree-granting institutions in the State and may  
25 make recommendations on suggested legislative initiatives.  
26
- 27       5. This act shall take effect immediately.