

ASSEMBLY, No. 817

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GREGORY P. MCGUCKIN

District 10 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblyman PAUL KANITRA

District 10 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblywoman TENNILLE R. MCCOY

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Scharfenberger

SYNOPSIS

Requires public institutions of higher education to establish plans concerning cyber security and prevention of cyber attacks.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/22/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning higher education cyber security and
2 supplementing chapter 3B of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

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

7
8 1. a. A public institution of higher education shall establish
9 plans and procedures to enhance cyber security and prevent cyber
10 attacks against the institution's information technology systems.
11 The plans and procedures, at a minimum, shall address: system
12 monitoring to identify potential cyber security risks and
13 vulnerabilities; cyber threat assessment; techniques for mitigating
14 risk and preventing cyber breaches; and response and recovery for
15 cyber security incidents.

16 b. In developing its cyber security plans and procedures, an
17 institution of higher education may consult with the New Jersey
18 Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell, established
19 pursuant to Executive Order No. 178 (2015) in the New Jersey
20 Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, regarding
21 information and best practices on cyber security and data
22 protection.

23 c. A public institution of higher education shall, as appropriate
24 and on a regular basis, update its cyber security plans and
25 procedures to reflect current technologies and information security
26 techniques.

27 d. A public institution of higher education shall notify the New
28 Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness of any cyber
29 attack against the institution's information technology systems
30 within 24 hours of becoming aware of the incident.

31
32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

33
34

35 STATEMENT

36
37 This bill requires public institutions of higher education to
38 establish plans and procedures to enhance cyber security and
39 prevent cyber attacks against the institution's information
40 technology systems. Under the bill, the plans and procedures are
41 required to address, at a minimum: system monitoring to identify
42 potential cyber security risks and vulnerabilities; cyber threat
43 assessment; techniques for mitigating risk and preventing cyber
44 breaches; and response and recovery for cyber security incidents.
45 The bill requires public institutions of higher education to regularly
46 update their cyber security plans and procedures in order to reflect
47 current technologies and information security techniques.

1 In connection with developing their cyber security plans, public
2 institutions of higher education may consult with the New Jersey
3 Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell (NJCCIC)
4 regarding information and best practices on cyber security and data
5 protection. The NJCCIC was established in 2015 by executive
6 order as the State's central organization for cyber security
7 information sharing and threat analysis.

8 Lastly, the bill requires a public institution of higher education to
9 notify the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and
10 Preparedness of any cyber attack against the institution's
11 information technology systems within 24 hours of becoming aware
12 of the incident.