

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 309, *approved January 20, 2026*
Senate, No. 3889

1 **AN ACT** concerning food waste at public institutions of higher
2 education and supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A of the New
3 Jersey Statutes.

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

1. a. Each public institution of higher education shall develop and implement a food waste reduction program on each campus of the institution. It shall be the purpose of the program to redirect unused, excess food prepared or distributed at campus dining halls, facilities, and events to local food security programs, including soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and community nonprofits. The program shall ensure that all necessary and applicable food safety standards are met throughout the selection, packaging, and transfer of food through the program.

b. Each public institution of higher education shall submit an annual report to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), on its contributions to local food security programs and post the report on its website.

22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

25 STATEMENT

27 This bill directs each public institution of higher education to
28 develop and implement a food waste reduction program on each
29 campus of the institution. The purpose of the program is to redirect
30 unused, excess food prepared or distributed at campus dining halls,
31 facilities, and events to local food security programs, including
32 soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and community nonprofits.
33 The program is to ensure that all necessary and applicable food
34 safety standards are met throughout the selection, packaging, and
35 transfer of food through the program. The bill directs the institution
36 to submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on
37 its contributions to local food security programs and post the report
38 on its website.

43 Requires each public institution of higher education to develop
44 food waste reduction program on campus.