

SENATE, No. 3394

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 6, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator JON M. BRAMNICK

District 21 (Middlesex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Directs State Treasurer to debit from State operating aid allocated to public research university amount equal to costs incurred by institution in implementing agreements reached with certain student protestors.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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1 AN ACT concerning aid to public research universities and
2 supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. Notwithstanding any provision of law, rule, or regulation
9 to the contrary, the State Treasurer shall debit from a public
10 research university's State operating aid an amount equal to the
11 costs incurred by the institution in implementing any agreements
12 reached with students protesting the Israel-Hamas conflict that
13 began on October 7, 2023, including, but not limited to, costs
14 associated with:

15 (1) the institution's acceptance of, and any institutional aid
16 provided for, displaced Gazan students;

17 (2) establishing an Arab Cultural Center;

18 (3) establishing an educational and collaborative partnership
19 with Birzeit University;

20 (4) hiring senior administrators with cultural competency and
21 knowledge about Arabs, Palestinians, Muslims, anti-Palestinian
22 racism, and Islamophobia;

23 (5) hiring additional professors specializing in Palestine studies
24 and Middle East studies;

25 (6) establishing a center for Palestinian studies and the
26 departmentalization of Middle East studies;

27 (7) displaying the flags of a country or territory that is
28 controlled by a foreign terrorist organization as designated by the
29 United States Secretary of State pursuant to 8 U.S.C. s.1189; and

30 (8) providing amnesty to students, student groups, faculty, and
31 staff involved in anti-Semitic protests on the campus of the
32 institution.

33 b. As used in this section, "public research university" means
34 the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1994, c.48
35 (C.18A:3B-3).

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37 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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40 STATEMENT

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42 This bill directs the State Treasurer to debit from a public
43 research university's State operating aid an amount equal to the
44 costs incurred by the institution in implementing any agreements
45 reached with students protesting the Israel-Hamas conflict that
46 began on October 7, 2023.

47 Under the bill, aid is to be reduced by the costs associated with:

48 (1) the institution's acceptance of, and any institutional aid

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1 provided for, displaced Gazan students; (2) establishing an Arab
2 Cultural Center; (3) establishing an educational and collaborative
3 partnership with Birzeit University; (4) hiring senior administrators
4 with cultural competency and knowledge about Arabs, Palestinians,
5 Muslims, anti-Palestinian racism, and Islamophobia; 5) hiring
6 additional professors specializing in Palestine studies and Middle
7 East studies; (6) establishing a center for Palestinian studies and the
8 departmentalization of Middle East studies; (7) displaying the flags
9 of a country or territory that is controlled by a foreign terrorist
10 organization as designated by the United States Secretary of State;
11 and (8) providing amnesty to students, student groups, faculty, and
12 staff involved in anti-Semitic protests on the campus of the
13 institution.

14 This bill is in response to encampments on the lawns of
15 Voorhees Mall at Rutgers University-New Brunswick by students
16 demanding various actions from the institution in response to the
17 Israel-Hamas conflict. The sponsor notes that Rutgers negotiated
18 with the trespassing students and came to agreements with students
19 supporting a terrorist organization. The sponsor also notes that, if
20 implemented, the agreements will require the spending of taxpayer
21 dollars.