

# SENATE, No. 3097

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 1, 2017

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

**District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Permits students at public institutions of higher education to donate unused meal plan funds to emergency meal fund for distribution to New Jersey food banks.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/2/2017)

1 AN ACT concerning college meal plans and supplementing chapter  
2 3B of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. There is created in the Department of State a “New Jersey  
8 Emergency Meal Fund.” The fund shall be credited with the funds  
9 donated pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of this act.

10 b. All funds donated to the New Jersey Emergency Meal Fund  
11 shall be provided to the New Jersey Federation of Food Banks for  
12 the purpose of providing and distributing food to the federation’s  
13 network of food banks in the State of New Jersey.

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15 2. a. A public institution of higher education that offers meal  
16 plans to students shall permit a student to voluntarily donate any  
17 unused funds remaining in the student’s meal plan at the end of a  
18 semester to the New Jersey Emergency Meal Fund created under  
19 section 1 of this act. A public institution of higher education shall  
20 develop policies and procedures for verifying the amount of any  
21 unused funds remaining in a student’s meal plan at the end of a  
22 semester and for facilitating the transfer of unused funds that have  
23 been donated by students from their meal plans to the New Jersey  
24 Emergency Meal Fund.

25 b. As used in this section, “unused funds” means direct money  
26 remaining in a student’s meal plan at the end of a semester, or the  
27 amount of money that equates to the value of any unused meals or  
28 unused meal points that remain in a student’s meal plan at the end  
29 of a semester.

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31 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to  
32 the first full academic year following the date of enactment.

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STATEMENT

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37 This bill creates a new fund in the Department of State entitled  
38 the “New Jersey Emergency Meal Fund.” The bill requires public  
39 institutions of higher education that offer meal plans to allow a  
40 student to voluntarily donate any unused funds that remain in the  
41 student’s meal plan at the end of a semester to the New Jersey  
42 Emergency Meal Fund. All funds donated to the New Jersey  
43 Emergency Meal Fund will be provided to the New Jersey  
44 Federation of Food Banks for the purpose of providing and  
45 distributing food to the federation’s network of food banks in the  
46 State of New Jersey.

47 The bill directs public institutions of higher education to develop  
48 policies and procedures for verifying the amount of any unused

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1 funds remaining in a student's meal plan at the end of a semester  
2 and for facilitating the transfer of unused funds that have been  
3 donated by students from their meal plans to the New Jersey  
4 Emergency Meal Fund. Under the bill, unused funds from a meal  
5 plan include direct money that remains in a student's meal plan at  
6 the end of a semester and the amount of money that equates to the  
7 value of any unused meals or unused meal points that remain in a  
8 student's meal plan at the end of a semester.