

# SENATE, No. 356

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Gopal**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes study commission to examine development of mutually beneficial relationships between institutions of higher education and municipalities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT establishing a commission to study beneficial relationships  
2 between institutions of higher education and municipalities.

3

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

6

7 1. a. There is established a study commission for the purpose  
8 of examining the development of mutually beneficial relationships  
9 between institutions of higher education and the municipalities in  
10 which the institutions are located. The commission shall consist of  
11 14 members as follows:

12 (1) the Secretary of Higher Education, or a designee;

13 (2) eight members appointed by the Governor, including a  
14 representative of the State colleges and universities established  
15 pursuant to chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, a  
16 representative of the public research universities, a representative of  
17 the county colleges, a representative of the independent colleges  
18 and universities, a mayor or designee of a municipality in which a  
19 State college or university is located, a mayor or designee of a  
20 municipality in which a public research university is located, a  
21 mayor or designee of a municipality in which a county college is  
22 located, and a mayor or designee of a municipality in which an  
23 independent college or university is located;

24 (3) a representative of the New Jersey State League of  
25 Municipalities; and

26 (4) four members of the public with demonstrated expertise or  
27 interest in issues related to the work of the commission. The  
28 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly, the  
29 Minority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the  
30 General Assembly shall each appoint one of the public members.

31 b. Appointments to the commission shall be made within 30  
32 days of the effective date of this act. Vacancies in the membership  
33 of the commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original  
34 appointments were made.

35 c. Members of the commission shall serve without  
36 compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses  
37 incurred in the performance of their duties within the limits of funds  
38 made available to the commission for its purposes.

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40 2. a. The commission shall organize as soon as practicable,  
41 but no later than 30 days following the appointment of its members.  
42 The commission shall choose a chairperson from among its  
43 members and shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member  
44 of the commission.

45 b. The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education shall  
46 provide such professional staff and related support services as the  
47 commission requires to carry out its work. The commission also  
48 shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the

1 services of the employees of any State, county, or municipal  
2 department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it may require  
3 and as may be available to it for its purposes.  
4

5 3. It shall be the duty of the study commission to examine the  
6 creation and implementation of mutually beneficial relationships  
7 between the State's institutions of higher education and the  
8 municipalities in which the institutions are located. The  
9 commission shall study and consider issues including, but not  
10 limited to, the following:

11 a. ways in which institutions of higher education and  
12 municipalities may work closely together to foster relationships that  
13 will benefit the institution, the institution's students, and the  
14 community;

15 b. ways to increase the engagement of institutions of higher  
16 education with their surrounding communities in order to address  
17 and respond to community needs;

18 c. specific types of structured partnerships that may mutually  
19 benefit institutions of higher education and their surrounding  
20 communities including, but not limited to, partnerships related to  
21 academic programs, research, student internship and work  
22 opportunities, and community service and outreach;

23 d. the process by which an institution of higher education may  
24 acquire additional land, including whether the municipality should  
25 be required to approve the procurement of new land; and

26 e. recommendations or best practices for institutions of higher  
27 education and municipalities regarding the creation and  
28 implementation of mutually beneficial relationships and  
29 partnerships.  
30

31 4. The commission shall issue a report of its findings and  
32 recommendations to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant  
33 to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than 12  
34 months after the commission organizes.  
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36 5. This act shall take effect immediately, and the commission  
37 shall expire 30 days after the submission of its report.  
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#### 40 STATEMENT

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42 This bill establishes a study commission that will examine the  
43 creation and implementation of mutually beneficial relationships  
44 between the State's institutions of higher education and the  
45 municipalities in which the institutions are located. The  
46 commission will include the following 14 members: the Secretary  
47 of Higher Education; eight members appointed by the Governor,  
48 including a representative of the State colleges and universities, a

1 representative of the public research universities, a representative of  
2 the county colleges, a representative of the independent colleges  
3 and universities, a mayor of a municipality in which a State college  
4 or university is located, a mayor of a municipality in which a public  
5 research university is located, a mayor of a municipality in which a  
6 county college is located, and a mayor of a municipality in which an  
7 independent college or university is located; and four public  
8 members with demonstrated expertise or interest in issues related to  
9 the work of the commission.

10 Under the bill, the commission will study and consider the  
11 following issues: (a) ways in which institutions of higher education  
12 and municipalities may work closely together to foster relationships  
13 that will benefit the institution, the institution's students, and the  
14 community; (b) ways to increase the engagement of institutions of  
15 higher education with their surrounding communities in order to  
16 address and respond to community needs; (c) specific types of  
17 structured partnerships that may mutually benefit institutions of  
18 higher education and their surrounding communities including, but  
19 not limited to, partnerships related to academic programs, research,  
20 student internship and work opportunities, and community service  
21 and outreach; (d) the process by which an institution of higher  
22 education may acquire additional land, including whether the  
23 municipality should be required to approve the procurement of new  
24 land; and (e) recommendations or best practices for institutions of  
25 higher education and municipalities regarding the creation and  
26 implementation of mutually beneficial relationships and  
27 partnerships.

28 The bill directs the study commission to issue a report of its  
29 findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature  
30 no later than 12 months after the commission organizes.