

SENATE, No. 1403

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JULY 25, 1996

By Senators EWING and SCOTT

1 **AN ACT** concerning public institutions of higher education,
2 supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes
3 and repealing P.L.1995, c.63.

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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. The governing body of a public institution of higher education
9 shall not allow a negative check-off fee for the support of any
10 organization to be assessed on student tuition bills.

11 As used in this section, "negative check-off fee" means a separately-
12 listed fee which is automatically included in the total amount due but
13 which the payor is permitted to decline to pay by so indicating on the
14 bill.

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16 2. P.L.1995, c.63 (C.18A:62-22) is repealed.

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18 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
19 tuition bills for the 1996-97 school year.

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STATEMENT

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24 This bill would prohibit the governing body of a public institution
25 of higher education from allowing a negative check-off fee for the
26 support of any organization to be assessed on student tuition bills. A
27 "negative check-off fee" is defined as a separately-listed fee which is
28 automatically included in the total amount due but which the payor is
29 permitted to decline to pay by so indicating on the bill. A negative
30 check-off fee causes confusion because it is not obvious to the payor
31 that the fee is waivable. The bill repeals P.L.1995, c.63 (C.18A:62-
32 22) which prohibits public institutions of higher education from
33 allowing funds for legislative agents or organizations which attempt to
34 influence legislation from being assessed on student tuition bills by
35 means of a negative check-off.

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3 Prohibits negative check-off fee for support of any organization to be
4 assessed on student tuition bills at public institution of higher
5 education.