

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 26

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 14, 1996

By Senator ADLER

1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** urging the Governor, the New Jersey Sports and
2 Exposition Authority and the President and Athletic Director of Rutgers
3 University to release for purchase to all New Jerseyans tickets to the
4 NCAA "Final Four" basketball championship games that have been
5 designated for use by public officials and Rutgers University "VIPs."

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7 **WHEREAS**, The "Final Four" games of the National Collegiate Athletic
8 Association college basketball championships will be hosted by Rutgers
9 University at the Brendan Byrne Arena on March 30 and April 1, 1996;
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, Because the NCAA has designated an extremely limited number
12 of tickets for sale in New Jersey, citizens of this State generally cannot
13 purchase tickets to these tremendously popular and prestigious games; and

14 **WHEREAS**, A number of tickets have been or will be designated for the use of
15 public officials by the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, one of
16 the organizations responsible for hosting the games; and

17 **WHEREAS**, 350 tickets have been designated for the use of Rutgers University
18 "VIPs" and officials; and

19 **WHEREAS**, It is the sentiment of this House that such set-asides are unfair and
20 creates an unfavorable impression of entitlement and political favoritism;
21 and

22 **WHEREAS**, Citizens of New Jersey, whose tax dollars are used to help defray
23 the debt service of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority and
24 support Rutgers University, should have an equal and fair opportunity to
25 purchase these tickets; now, therefore,

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27 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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29 1. This House urges the Governor, the New Jersey Sports and Exposition
30 Authority, and the President and Athletic Director of Rutgers University to
31 release to the citizens of this State tickets for the 1996 NCAA "Final Four"
32 basketball championship games that have been earmarked for use by public
33 officials and Rutgers University "VIPs."

34 2. This House endorses the creation of a lottery whereby citizens of this
35 State will have the opportunity to purchase such tickets.

4. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the President of the Senate and attested by the Secretary thereof, shall be transmitted to Governor Christine Todd Whitman; Robert E. Mulcahy, III, President and Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority; Rutgers University President Francis Lawrence; and Rutgers University Athletic Director Fred Gruninger.

Urges release for purchase by New Jerseyans tickets for the 1996 NCAA "Final Four" basketball championships that have been designated for use by public officials and Rutgers University "VIPs."