

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 288, *approved November 8, 2021*
 Assembly, No. 2311 (*Third Reprint*)

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

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 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 ¹~~15~~ ²~~16~~ ¹17² members as follows:

12 (1) the Secretary of Higher Education, or a designee ²and the
 13 Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the
 14 Department of Community Affairs, or a designee²;

15 (2) ¹~~ten~~ ¹11¹ members appointed by the Governor, including a
 16 representative of the State colleges and universities established
 17 pursuant to chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, a
 18 representative of the public research universities, a representative of
 19 the county colleges, a representative of the independent colleges
 20 and universities, a mayor or designee of a municipality in which a
 21 State college or university is located, a mayor or designee of a
 22 municipality in which a public research university is located, a
 23 mayor or designee of a municipality in which a county college is
 24 located, a mayor or designee of a municipality in which an
 25 independent college or university is located, a representative of the
 26 New Jersey State League of Municipalities, ¹a representative of the
 27 American Federation of Teachers,¹ and a representative of the New
 28 Jersey Education Association; and

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

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

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

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
 not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly floor amendments adopted February 24, 2020.

²Senate SHI committee amendments adopted March 11, 2021.

³Senate floor amendments adopted June 3, 2021.

1 2. a. The commission shall organize as soon as practicable,
2 but no later than 30 days following the appointment of its members.
3 The commission shall choose a chairperson from among its
4 members and shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member
5 of the commission.

6 b. The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education shall
7 provide such professional staff and related support services as the
8 commission requires to carry out its work. The commission also
9 shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the
10 services of the employees of any State, county, or municipal
11 department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it may require
12 and as may be available to it for its purposes.
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14 3. It shall be the duty of the study commission to examine the
15 creation and implementation of mutually beneficial relationships
16 between the State's institutions of higher education and the
17 municipalities in which the institutions are located. The
18 commission shall study and consider issues including, but not
19 limited to, the following:

20 a. ways in which institutions of higher education and
21 municipalities may work closely together to foster relationships that
22 will benefit the institution, the institution's students, and the
23 community;

24 b. ways to increase the engagement of institutions of higher
25 education with their surrounding communities in order to address
26 and respond to community needs;

27 c. specific types of structured partnerships that may mutually
28 benefit institutions of higher education and their surrounding
29 communities including, but not limited to, partnerships related to
30 academic programs, research, student internship and work
31 opportunities, and community service and outreach;

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

35 e. recommendations or best practices for institutions of higher
36 education and municipalities regarding the creation and
37 implementation of mutually beneficial relationships and
38 partnerships.
39

40 4. The commission shall issue a report of its findings and
41 recommendations to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant
42 to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than 12
43 months after the commission organizes.
44

45 5. This act shall take effect ³**[immediately]** 90 days after the date
46 of enactment³, and the commission shall expire 30 days after the
47 submission of its report.

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