



NEW JERSEY

Association of State Colleges and Universities

150 West State Street, Trenton NJ 08608

Phone (609) 989-1100

Senate Budget & Appropriations Committee December 15, 2016 Senate Bill No. 2624

The state colleges and universities support the goal of this legislation to help students accelerate their time to degree by accumulating credits while in high school. We oppose this legislation, however, because the proposed programs could impose unreimbursed costs on our institutions. Moreover, the bill would grant authority to the Secretary of Higher Education over admissions issues that are the purview of our boards of trustees.

Section 2 would require that “the cost of tuition for up to 15 credits shall be borne equally among the school district, the partnering institution of higher education, and the student.” This provision would impose more costs on the state colleges and universities during a period that has seen a 30-percent decrease in their operating support from the State over the past decade.

Section 3 of the bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, to establish criteria to determine a student’s college readiness for participation in dual-enrollment programs. Our institutions boards of trustees have the authority to “establish admission standards” (C. 18A:3B-6.d).

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