



NEW JERSEY

Association of State Colleges and Universities

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**NJASCU Statement on Senate Bill No. 3281/Assembly Bill No. 4969
Establishes Montclair State University as a Public Research University
July 21, 2017**

We congratulate Montclair State University on the enactment today of the legislation designating the institution as a public research university.

Montclair has a long history of distinguished contributions to the students and residents of New Jersey, and its evolution from a teachers' college to a public research university reflects how its mission has kept pace with the needs of the state.

Key provisions in the Montclair State legislation remove the institution from restrictions under the State College Contracts Law for procurement and construction. The State College Contracts Law is 31 years old and constrains the operation of the remaining state colleges and universities. The New Jersey Higher Education Task Force, in its December 2010 report, stated that the State College Contracts Law restricts the ability of these institutions to enter long-range contracts, slows the pace of construction, and increases procurement and construction costs.

The New Jersey Higher Education Task Force, chaired by former Governor Tom Kean, endorsed a recommendation from the New Jersey Presidents' Council to revise many provisions of the State College Contracts Law. The New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities looks forward to working with the legislators to cut red tape in the New Jersey's laws to enable all the state colleges and universities to serve New Jersey's residents more effectively and efficiently.

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