

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1958

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 28, 2014

Sponsored by:

Senator ROBERT W. SINGER

District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Requires Rutgers University to create a liberal studies program for students with intellectually disabled; appropriates \$500,000.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Higher Education Committee on May 5, 2014, with amendments.



1 AN ACT concerning Rutgers, The State University, supplementing
2 chapters 65 and 71B of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and
3 making an appropriation.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*
7

8 1. a. Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, shall
9 establish a Career and Community Studies program. The program
10 shall be a liberal studies program for ¹**["intellectually disabled"]**
11 students ¹with intellectual disabilities¹ from ages 18 to 25. The
12 purpose of the program shall be to prepare ¹**["intellectually**
13 **disabled"]**¹ students ¹with intellectual disabilities¹ for adult life
14 using a post-secondary experience on a college campus. The
15 program shall provide the students with a combination of academic
16 rigor, career discovery and preparation, and peer socialization, as
17 part of a diverse community of learners, and shall provide for the
18 award of a Career and Community Studies Program Certificate
19 upon completion of the program.

20 b. The university shall develop an application process and an
21 outreach program that encourages students, who have received
22 special education services while enrolled in a public or nonpublic
23 secondary school and who may have difficulty succeeding in a
24 traditional college degree program, to apply for the program.

25 c. The university shall consult with The College of New Jersey
26 in the development of the program curriculum leading to a Career
27 and Community Studies Program Certificate.

28 d. The university shall provide on-campus housing
29 opportunities for students in the Career and Community Studies
30 Program.

31 e. The university shall apply for grant funds from federal,
32 corporate, and other entities to support the program.
33

34 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:71B-18 et seq.
35 to the contrary, a student attending the Career and Community
36 Studies Program established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. ,c. ()
37 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), or a similar program as
38 determined by the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority,
39 shall be eligible to receive a State tuition aid grant if the student
40 meets the eligibility requirements for a State tuition aid grant.
41

42 3. The university shall submit a report to the Governor, and the
43 Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1),
44 three years after the establishment of the Career and Community

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:

¹Senate SHI committee amendments adopted May 5, 2014.

1 Studies Program established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. ,
2 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The report
3 shall include an overview of the program, funding sources and
4 expenditures, student enrollment data, recommendations for
5 improving the program, and recommendations for the establishment
6 of a similar program at other State colleges and universities.

7

8 4. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
9 Department of State for deposit in a non-lapsing fund, the sum of
10 \$500,000 to effectuate the provisions of this act; except that the
11 university shall use no more than \$250,000 in the first academic
12 year of the program.

13

14 5. This act shall take effect immediately.