

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL:	No	
COMMITTEE STATEMENT:	ASSEMBLY: Yes	Higher Education Military & Veterans Affairs
	SENATE: No	

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, **may possibly** be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:	No
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:	No
VETO MESSAGE:	No
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes
LEGISLATOR STATEMENT:	Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

CL/MMcB

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 33, *approved March 7, 2025*
Senate, No. 1445

1 **AN ACT** concerning military service members at public institutions
2 of higher education and supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A
3 of the New Jersey Statutes.

4

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

7

8 1. a. A public institution of higher education shall readmit
9 an undergraduate student who withdrew from the institution due to
10 the student's service in the uniformed services, including service in
11 the Armed Forces, or as a member of the National Guard or
12 Reserve, on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time
13 National Guard duty under federal or State authority. The institution
14 shall readmit the student with the same academic status as the
15 student had when the student last attended the institution.

16 b. Readmission shall be granted upon written request by the
17 student for the next academic semester beginning after the date of
18 the request. An institution shall not charge an application or other
19 fee for a readmission request made pursuant to the provisions of
20 this section.

21

22 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
23 the first full academic year following the date of enactment.

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25

26

27

28 _____
29 Requires public institution of higher education to readmit student
whose enrollment was interrupted due to military service.

CHAPTER 33

AN ACT concerning military service members at public institutions of higher education and supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

C.18A:62-4.3d Readmission, higher education, uniformed service.

1. a. A public institution of higher education shall readmit an undergraduate student who withdrew from the institution due to the student's service in the uniformed services, including service in the Armed Forces, or as a member of the National Guard or Reserve, on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty under federal or State authority. The institution shall readmit the student with the same academic status as the student had when the student last attended the institution.

b. Readmission shall be granted upon written request by the student for the next academic semester beginning after the date of the request. An institution shall not charge an application or other fee for a readmission request made pursuant to the provisions of this section.

2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to the first full academic year following the date of enactment.

Approved March 7, 2025.

SENATE, No. 1445

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Requires public institution of higher education to readmit student whose enrollment was interrupted due to military service.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



S1445 SINGLETON, CORRADO

2

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31 service in the Armed Forces, or as a member of the National Guard
32 or Reserve, on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time
33 National Guard duty under federal or State authority. Under the bill,
34 the institution is required to readmit the student with the same
35 academic status as the student had when the student last attended
36 the institution.

37 The bill also provides that readmission is to be granted upon
38 written request by the student for the next academic semester
39 beginning after the date of the request. Finally, the bill provides
40 that an institution cannot charge an application or other fee for a
41 readmission request made pursuant to the bill's provisions.

SENATE, No. 1445

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER

District 28 (Essex and Union)

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Amato, Pou, Moriarty, Johnson, Assemblywoman McCoy, Assemblymen Barlas, Scharfenberger, Assemblywoman Flynn, Assemblyman Atkins, Assemblywoman Speight, Senator Wimberly, Assemblymen Inganamort, Miller, Karabinchak, Assemblywoman Fantasia, Assemblyman Calabrese, Assemblywoman Quijano, Assemblyman Stanley, Assemblywomen Donlon, Peterpaul, Assemblyman Sampson, Assemblywomen Pintor Marin and Drulis

SYNOPSIS

Requires public institution of higher education to readmit student whose enrollment was interrupted due to military service.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Higher Education Committee with technical review.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/30/2025)

S1445 SINGLETON, CORRADO

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2 of higher education and supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A
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ASSEMBLY HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1445

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 3, 2024

The Assembly Higher Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1445.

This bill requires a public institution of higher education to readmit an undergraduate student who withdrew from the institution due to the student's service in the uniformed services, including service in the Armed Forces, or as a member of the National Guard or Reserve, on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty under federal or State authority. Under the bill, the institution is required to readmit the student with the same academic status as the student had when the student last attended the institution.

The bill also provides that readmission is to be granted upon written request by the student for the next academic semester beginning after the date of the request. Finally, the bill provides that an institution cannot charge an application or other fee for a readmission request made pursuant to the bill's provisions.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 1445 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3803, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1445

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 23, 2025

The Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1445.

This bill requires a public institution of higher education to readmit an undergraduate student who withdrew from the institution due to the student's service in the uniformed services, including service in the Armed Forces, or as a member of the National Guard or Reserve, on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty under federal or State authority. Under the bill, the institution is required to readmit the student with the same academic status as the student had when the student last attended the institution.

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As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 1445 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3803, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1445

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 5, 2024

The Senate Higher Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1445.

This bill requires a public institution of higher education to readmit an undergraduate student who withdrew from the institution due to the student's service in the uniformed services, including service in the Armed Forces, or as a member of the National Guard or Reserve, on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty under federal or State authority. Under the bill, the institution is required to readmit the student with the same academic status as the student had when the student last attended the institution.

The bill also provides that readmission is to be granted upon written request by the student for the next academic semester beginning after the date of the request. Finally, the bill provides that an institution cannot charge an application or other fee for a readmission request made pursuant to the bill's provisions.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2024-2025 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3803

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER

District 28 (Essex and Union)

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

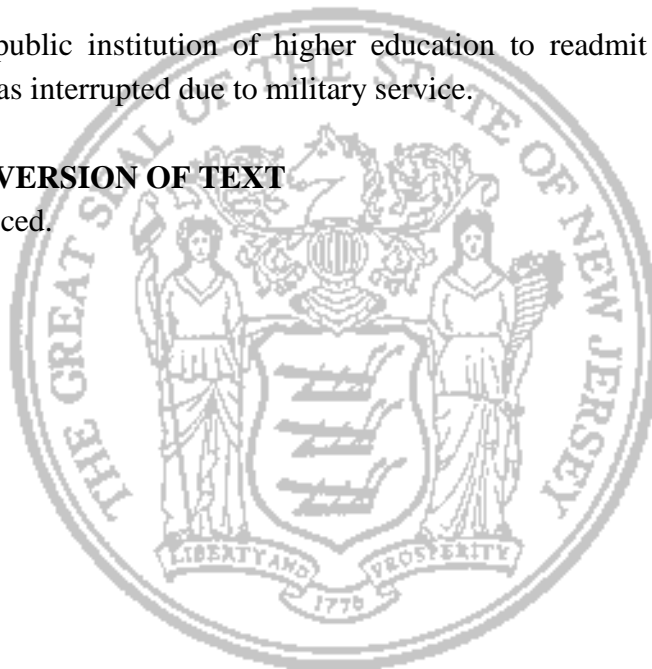
Assemblywoman McCoy, Assemblymen Barlas, Scharfenberger, Assemblywoman Flynn, Assemblyman Atkins, Assemblywoman Speight, Assemblymen Wimberly, Inganamort, Miller, Karabinchak, Assemblywoman Fantasia, Assemblyman Calabrese, Assemblywoman Quijano, Assemblyman Stanley, Assemblywomen Donlon, Peterpaul, Assemblyman Sampson, Assemblywomen Pintor Marin and Drulis

SYNOPSIS

Requires public institution of higher education to readmit student whose enrollment was interrupted due to military service.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/30/2025)

A3803 REYNOLDS-JACKSON, TUCKER

2

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2 of higher education and supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A
3 of the New Jersey Statutes.

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STATEMENT

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42 This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2024-2025 session
43 pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes
44 required by technical review, which has been performed.

ASSEMBLY HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3803

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 3, 2024

The Assembly Higher Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3803.

This bill requires a public institution of higher education to readmit an undergraduate student who withdrew from the institution due to the student's service in the uniformed services, including service in the Armed Forces, or as a member of the National Guard or Reserve, on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty under federal or State authority. Under the bill, the institution is required to readmit the student with the same academic status as the student had when the student last attended the institution.

The bill also provides that readmission is to be granted upon written request by the student for the next academic semester beginning after the date of the request. Finally, the bill provides that an institution cannot charge an application or other fee for a readmission request made pursuant to the bill's provisions.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 3803 is identical to Senate Bill No. 1445, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3803

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 23, 2025

The Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3803.

This bill requires a public institution of higher education to readmit an undergraduate student who withdrew from the institution due to the student's service in the uniformed services, including service in the Armed Forces, or as a member of the National Guard or Reserve, on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty under federal or State authority. Under the bill, the institution is required to readmit the student with the same academic status as the student had when the student last attended the institution.

The bill also provides that readmission is to be granted upon written request by the student for the next academic semester beginning after the date of the request. Finally, the bill provides that an institution cannot charge an application or other fee for a readmission request made pursuant to the bill's provisions.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 3803 is identical to Senate Bill No. 1445, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Requiring Public Universities and Colleges to Readmit Students Who Withdrew Due to Military Service

03/7/2025

Readmission to Be Granted Upon Written Request by the Returning Student, With No Associated Fees

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy today signed legislation requiring New Jersey’s public universities and colleges to readmit students whose enrollment was interrupted due to military service. This includes service in the Armed Forces or as a member of the National Guard or Reserve – whether on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty under federal or State authority.

Under the bill, the institution of higher education is required to readmit the student with the same academic status the student had before withdrawing. Readmission is to be granted upon written request by the student with no associated fees.

“We are committed to doing everything we can in New Jersey to support our service members and veterans, including ensuring that the brave men and women who selflessly put their studies on hold to answer the call to serve can pick up their college education exactly where they left off,” **said Governor Murphy**. “With today’s bill signing, we are underscoring our support for New Jersey’s active-duty service members and veterans by removing barriers to securing a college education.”

“New Jersey is committed to helping every student complete their degree, including those who have paused their education to serve our country,” **said Secretary of Higher Education Brian Bridges**. “With this law, it will be easier for service members to return to college with the same academic standing they had before their military service and without the financial burden of application fees. I want to thank the sponsors for their leadership in championing this important legislation. Together, we reaffirm New Jersey’s commitment to fostering inclusive higher education opportunities, ensuring that all residents have clear paths to finishing their education and advancing their careers.”

“Calls to service from our state and country can happen at any moment, no matter what is going on in the lives of our service members. When they answer those calls, disruption to their pursuit of academic degrees is one of the sacrifices they frequently make,” **said Brig. Gen. Yvonne Mays, DMAVA Commissioner and The Adjutant General of New Jersey**. “This legislation ensures that those who answered the call to serve are afforded the opportunity to succeed and advance their educational careers when they return from duty.”

Sponsors of the legislation ([S1445/A3803](#)) include Senator Troy Singleton, Senator Kristin Corrado, Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblywoman Cleopatra Tucker, and then Assemblyman, now U.S. Representative Herb Conaway.

“Colleges and universities should not be penalizing students who have their education interrupted to serve our country

by forcing them to retake classes and spend more,” **said Senator Troy Singleton**. “We should do everything we can to support veterans when they return, and I thank the Governor for signing this legislation to ensure that these students are able to pick up right where they left off without penalties.”

“Every veteran in the state deserves the opportunity to pursue their higher education goals,” **said Senator Kristin Corrado**. “With the Governor’s signature, we will make certain that public colleges and universities have policies in place to provide special accommodations for veterans, and help our brave men and women in uniform transition back into civilian life more easily than ever before.”

“We owe it to our service members to ensure they have a seamless transition back to college,” **said Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson**. “Through A3803, we not only honor their commitment to this country but also make higher education more accessible.”

“Service members sacrifice so much for our country, and it is only right we make it as easy as possible for them to pursue their educational aspirations upon their return,” **said Assemblywoman Cleopatra Tucker**. “This bill is a small token of our appreciation for their service.”

“I am pleased to learn that Governor Murphy has formally signed S1445/A3803 into law—the new NJ bill designed to enhance support and benefits for the veterans who call New Jersey home. This measure represents a vital step toward ensuring that every veteran receives the care, recognition, and educational opportunities they deserve,” **said Luddie H. Austin, Commander, Dept. of NJ VFW**. “On behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, I extend my sincere appreciation to Governor Murphy for his steadfast commitment to our community and our heroes.”

“The bill (S1445/A3803) that the Governor has signed is another helpful tool to support our veterans to continue the education needed to support their families and to give them a larger sense of being a viable part of our ever-changing society,” **said Charles Andy Jackson, Dept. Commander NJ, American Legion**. “We, the American Legion members, are grateful for his continued support of furthering the educational needs of our Veterans. We know he will continue to support our Veterans by passing all bills presented in a proper way.”

“The Disabled American Veterans, Department of New Jersey wholeheartedly supports the signing of this bill. A student that has their pursuit of a higher education degree interrupted by military service, whether by service in the Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard, on active duty or for training, should not be penalized,” **said George R. Schnepf, Jr., Adjutant, DAV Dept. of NJ**. “It is only fitting that the student be readmitted at the same academic status the student held when they last attended the institution. Education opportunities should be encouraged by military service. This bill will be helpful in those transitioning back to civilian life after service.”

“The NJVN is excited about S1445/A3803 being signed by the Governor,” **said Michael D. Boll, President, New Jersey Veteran Network**. “This bill is a great step forward in supporting our veteran college students during their studies by removing stressors and potential disruptions. Also, this will allow veterans to focus on their education and future.”

The New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities (NJASCU) commends the Legislature and Governor for enacting this legislation, a critical measure that ensures our dedicated service members can seamlessly continue their higher education upon returning from military duty,” **said Jennifer Keyes-Maloney, Executive Director, New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities (NJASCU)**. “We are proud that several of our member institutions have been recognized with the 2024-2025 [Military Friendly® School](#) designation, reflecting their

dedication to creating welcoming, supportive environments for military-affiliated students. As institutions committed to access and student success, our colleges and universities stand ready to support returning service members with the resources needed to achieve their academic and professional goals."

Posted on: March 7, 2025

Corrado Bill Helping Veterans Reenter Higher Education Signed into Law

Legislation sponsored by Senator Kristin M. Corrado (R-40) that requires public universities to readmit undergraduate students who left due to military service with no changes to their academic standing was signed into law today.



"Every veteran in the state deserves the opportunity to pursue their higher education goals," said Senator Corrado. "With the Governor's signature, we will make certain that public colleges and universities have policies in place to provide special accommodations for veterans, and help our brave men and women in uniform transition back into civilian life more easily than ever before."

Corrado's bill, S-1445, requires New Jersey public colleges and universities readmit undergraduate students who withdrew from the institution due to their military service. This includes service in the Armed Forces, National Guard, or Reserve on active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty under federal or State authority.

The readmission must occur with the same academic status the student had before withdrawal, and the request for readmission must be made in writing without any associated application or other fees.

You can [read the full text of the bill online](#).

To speak with Sen. Corrado, contact Jennifer Collins, SRO Associate Director of Digital Communications, at jcollins@njleg.org.