

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

Murphy signs bills aimed at addressing hunger into law
Associated Press State Wire: New Jersey (NJ) - May 9, 2019

Murphy signs bills to help fight hunger
Times, The (Trenton, NJ) - May 10, 2019

RWH/JA

§§1-4 -
C.18A:62-60 to
18A:62-63
§5 - T&E
§6 - Approp.

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 89, *approved May 9, 2019*
Assembly, No. 4702 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning food insecurity among students enrolled in
2 public institutions of higher education, supplementing chapter 62
3 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and making an
4 appropriation.

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

8
9 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Hunger-
10 Free Campus Act.”

11
12 2. The Secretary of Higher Education shall establish a Hunger-
13 Free Campus Grant Program. The purpose of the program shall be
14 to provide grants to public institutions of higher education that have
15 one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as
16 hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding shall be to:
17 a. address student hunger;
18 b. leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food
19 needs on campus;
20 c. raise awareness of services currently offered on campus
21 which address basic food needs; and
22 d. continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, State,
23 and national levels to address food insecurity among students.

24
25 3. In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus, the
26 institution shall:

27 a. establish a ¹**【hunger task force】** Campus Hunger Task
28 Force¹ that meets a minimum of three times per academic year to
29 set at least two goals with action plans;
30 b. designate a staff member responsible for assisting students
31 with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
32 Assistance Program (SNAP);
33 c. provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at
34 campus stores ¹that meet the federal standards set by the Food and
35 Nutrition Service in the United States Department of Agriculture¹;

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 AAP committee amendments adopted December 10, 2018.

- 1 d. participate in an awareness day campaign activity and plan a
2 campus awareness event during the National Hunger and
3 Homelessness Awareness Week;
- 4 e. provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or
5 enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-free
6 arrangement;
- 7 f. develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing
8 program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free meal
9 vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a “Swipe Out
10 Hunger” program; and
- 11 g. annually conduct a student survey on hunger, developed by
12 the Secretary of Higher Education, and submit the results of the
13 survey and a best practices campus profile to the secretary at a time
14 prescribed by the secretary for inclusion in a comparative profile of
15 each campus designated as a hunger-free campus. In the
16 development of the survey, the secretary may utilize any existing
17 surveys designed to collect information on food insecurity among
18 students enrolled in public institutions of higher education.

19

20 4. The secretary shall allocate grant funding to each public
21 institution of higher education that has one or more campuses
22 designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus in accordance
23 with the criteria established pursuant to section 3 of this act. The
24 secretary shall determine the amount of each grant which shall be
25 used by the institution to further address food insecurity among
26 students enrolled in the institution.

27

28 5. The secretary shall submit a report to the Governor, and to
29 the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
30 19.1), no later than two years after the establishment of the Hunger-
31 Free Campus Grant Program. The report shall include, but not be
32 limited to, the number and amounts of the grant awards, the impact
33 the grant program has had on establishing additional hunger-free
34 campuses at public institutions of higher education and reducing the
35 number of students experiencing food insecurity, and
36 recommendations on the expansion of the grant program.

37

38 6. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
39 Department of State the sum of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of
40 effectuating the provisions of this act.

41

42 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

43

44

45

46

47 “Hunger-Free Campus Act”; requires Secretary of Higher
48 Education to establish grant program to address food insecurity
49 among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education;
50 appropriates \$1 million.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4702

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 29, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblymen DeAngelo, Chiaravalloti, Assemblywoman Quijano,
Assemblyman Karabinchak and Assemblywoman McKnight**

SYNOPSIS

“Hunger-Free Campus Act”; requires Secretary of Higher Education to establish grant program to address food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education; appropriates \$1 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/7/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning food insecurity among students enrolled in
2 public institutions of higher education, supplementing chapter 62
3 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and making an
4 appropriation.

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

8
9 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Hunger-
10 Free Campus Act.”

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12 2. The Secretary of Higher Education shall establish a Hunger-
13 Free Campus Grant Program. The purpose of the program shall be
14 to provide grants to public institutions of higher education that have
15 one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as
16 hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding shall be to:

- 17 a. address student hunger;
18 b. leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food
19 needs on campus;
20 c. raise awareness of services currently offered on campus
21 which address basic food needs; and
22 d. continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, State,
23 and national levels to address food insecurity among students.

24
25 3. In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus, the
26 institution shall:

- 27 a. establish a hunger task force that meets a minimum of three
28 times per academic year to set at least two goals with action plans;
29 b. designate a staff member responsible for assisting students
30 with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
31 Assistance Program (SNAP);
32 c. provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at
33 campus stores;
34 d. participate in an awareness day campaign activity and plan a
35 campus awareness event during the National Hunger and
36 Homelessness Awareness Week;
37 e. provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or
38 enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-free
39 arrangement;
40 f. develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing
41 program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free meal
42 vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a “Swipe Out
43 Hunger” program; and
44 g. annually conduct a student survey on hunger, developed by
45 the Secretary of Higher Education, and submit the results of the
46 survey and a best practices campus profile to the secretary at a time
47 prescribed by the secretary for inclusion in a comparative profile of
48 each campus designated as a hunger-free campus. In the

1 development of the survey, the secretary may utilize any existing
2 surveys designed to collect information on food insecurity among
3 students enrolled in public institutions of higher education.

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5 4. The secretary shall allocate grant funding to each public
6 institution of higher education that has one or more campuses
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8 with the criteria established pursuant to section 3 of this act. The
9 secretary shall determine the amount of each grant which shall be
10 used by the institution to further address food insecurity among
11 students enrolled in the institution.

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13 5. The secretary shall submit a report to the Governor, and to
14 the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
15 19.1), no later than two years after the establishment of the Hunger-
16 Free Campus Grant Program. The report shall include, but not be
17 limited to, the number and amounts of the grant awards, the impact
18 the grant program has had on establishing additional hunger-free
19 campuses at public institutions of higher education and reducing the
20 number of students experiencing food insecurity, and
21 recommendations on the expansion of the grant program.

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24 Department of State the sum of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of
25 effectuating the provisions of this act.

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30 STATEMENT

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32 This bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education to establish
33 a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address the issue of food
34 insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher
35 education. Under the bill, grants will be provided to institutions that
36 have one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as
37 hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding is to:

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41 needs on campus;
 - 42 • raise awareness of services currently offered on campus
43 which address basic food needs; and
 - 44 • continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, State,
45 and national levels to address food insecurity among
46 students.

47 In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus, the institution
is required to, at a minimum:

A4702 WIMBERLY, JASEY

- 1 • establish a hunger task force that meets a minimum of three
- 2 times per academic year to set at least two goals with action
- 3 plans;
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- 5 with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
- 6 Assistance Program (SNAP);
- 7 • provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at
- 8 campus stores;
- 9 • provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or
- 10 enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-
- 11 free arrangement; and
- 12 • develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing
- 13 program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free
- 14 meal vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a
- 15 “Swipe Out Hunger” program.

16 Under the bill, the secretary will allocate grant funding to each

17 public institution of higher education that has one or more

18 campuses designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus. The

19 secretary will determine the amount of each grant which will be

20 used by the institution to further address food insecurity among

21 students enrolled in the institution.

22 The bill also requires the secretary to submit a report to the

23 Governor and the Legislature no later than two years after the

24 establishment of the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program. The

25 report will include information on the number and amounts of the

26 grant awards, the impact the grant program has had on establishing

27 additional hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher

28 education and reducing the number of students experiencing food

29 insecurity, and recommendations on the expansion of the grant

30 program.

31 The bill appropriates the sum of \$1 million from the General

32 Fund to the Department of State for the grant program.

ASSEMBLY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4702

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 29, 2018

The Assembly Human Services Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4702.

This bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education to establish a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address the issue of food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education. Under the bill, grants will be provided to institutions that have one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding is to: address student hunger; leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food needs on campus; raise awareness of services currently offered on campus which address basic food needs; and continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, State, and national levels to address food insecurity among students.

In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus, the institution is required, at a minimum, to: 1) establish a hunger task force that meets a minimum of three times per academic year to set at least two goals with action plans; 2) designate a staff member responsible for assisting students with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); 3) provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at campus stores; 4) provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-free arrangement; and 5) develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free meal vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a “Swipe Out Hunger” program.

Under the bill, the secretary will allocate grant funding to each public institution of higher education that has one or more campuses designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus. The secretary will determine the amount of each grant, which will be used by the institution to further address food insecurity among students enrolled in the institution.

The bill also requires the secretary to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature no later than two years after the establishment of the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program. The report will include information on the number and amounts of the grant awards, the impact the grant program has had on establishing additional hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher

education and reducing the number of students experiencing food insecurity, and recommendations on the expansion of the grant program.

The bill appropriates the sum of \$1 million from the General Fund to the Department of State for the grant program.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4702

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 29, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblymen DeAngelo, Chiaravalloti, Assemblywoman Quijano,
Assemblyman Karabinchak and Assemblywoman McKnight**

SYNOPSIS

“Hunger-Free Campus Act”; requires Secretary of Higher Education to establish grant program to address food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education; appropriates \$1 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/7/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning food insecurity among students enrolled in
2 public institutions of higher education, supplementing chapter 62
3 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and making an
4 appropriation.

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30 with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
31 Assistance Program (SNAP);
32 c. provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at
33 campus stores;
34 d. participate in an awareness day campaign activity and plan a
35 campus awareness event during the National Hunger and
36 Homelessness Awareness Week;
37 e. provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or
38 enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-free
39 arrangement;
40 f. develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing
41 program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free meal
42 vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a “Swipe Out
43 Hunger” program; and
44 g. annually conduct a student survey on hunger, developed by
45 the Secretary of Higher Education, and submit the results of the
46 survey and a best practices campus profile to the secretary at a time
47 prescribed by the secretary for inclusion in a comparative profile of
48 each campus designated as a hunger-free campus. In the

1 development of the survey, the secretary may utilize any existing
2 surveys designed to collect information on food insecurity among
3 students enrolled in public institutions of higher education.

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5 4. The secretary shall allocate grant funding to each public
6 institution of higher education that has one or more campuses
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8 with the criteria established pursuant to section 3 of this act. The
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11 students enrolled in the institution.

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13 5. The secretary shall submit a report to the Governor, and to
14 the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
15 19.1), no later than two years after the establishment of the Hunger-
16 Free Campus Grant Program. The report shall include, but not be
17 limited to, the number and amounts of the grant awards, the impact
18 the grant program has had on establishing additional hunger-free
19 campuses at public institutions of higher education and reducing the
20 number of students experiencing food insecurity, and
21 recommendations on the expansion of the grant program.

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23 6. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
24 Department of State the sum of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of
25 effectuating the provisions of this act.

26
27 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

28
29
30 STATEMENT

31
32 This bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education to establish
33 a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address the issue of food
34 insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher
35 education. Under the bill, grants will be provided to institutions that
36 have one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as
37 hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding is to:

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43 which address basic food needs; and
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45 and national levels to address food insecurity among
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is required to, at a minimum:

A4702 WIMBERLY, JASEY

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- 2 times per academic year to set at least two goals with action
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- 9 • provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or
- 10 enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-
- 11 free arrangement; and
- 12 • develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing
- 13 program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free
- 14 meal vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a
- 15 “Swipe Out Hunger” program.

16 Under the bill, the secretary will allocate grant funding to each

17 public institution of higher education that has one or more

18 campuses designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus. The

19 secretary will determine the amount of each grant which will be

20 used by the institution to further address food insecurity among

21 students enrolled in the institution.

22 The bill also requires the secretary to submit a report to the

23 Governor and the Legislature no later than two years after the

24 establishment of the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program. The

25 report will include information on the number and amounts of the

26 grant awards, the impact the grant program has had on establishing

27 additional hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher

28 education and reducing the number of students experiencing food

29 insecurity, and recommendations on the expansion of the grant

30 program.

31 The bill appropriates the sum of \$1 million from the General

32 Fund to the Department of State for the grant program.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4702

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 31, 2019

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4702 (1R).

This bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education to establish a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address the issue of food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education. Under the bill, grants will be provided to institutions that have one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding is to:

- address student hunger;
- leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food needs on campus;
- raise awareness of services currently offered on campus which address basic food needs; and
- continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, State, and national levels to address food insecurity among students.

In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus, the institution is required to:

- establish a Campus Hunger Task Force that meets a minimum of three times per academic year to set at least two goals with action plans;
- designate a staff member responsible for assisting students with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP);
- provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at campus stores that meet the federal standards set by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States Department of Agriculture;
- provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-free arrangement;
- develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free meal vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a “Swipe Out Hunger” program; and
- annually conduct a student survey on hunger, and submit the survey results and a best practices campus profile to the secretary.

Under the bill, the secretary will allocate grant funding to each public institution of higher education that has one or more campuses designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus. The secretary will determine the amount of each grant which will be used by the institution to further address food insecurity among students enrolled in the institution.

The bill also requires the secretary to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature no later than two years after the establishment of the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program. The report will include information on the number and amounts of the grant awards, the impact the grant program has had on establishing additional hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher education and reducing the number of students experiencing food insecurity, and recommendations on the expansion of the grant program.

The bill appropriates the sum of \$1 million from the General Fund to the Department of State for the grant program.

As reported by the committee with amendments, Assembly Bill No. 4702 (1R) is identical to Senate Bill No. 3239 (1R), which was also reported by the committee on this date.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4702

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

DATED: DECEMBER 19, 2018

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** “Hunger-Free Campus Act”; requires Secretary of Higher Education to establish grant program to address food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education; appropriates \$1 million.
- Type of Impact:** State Expenditure Increase
- Agencies Affected:** Office of Secretary of Higher Education; participating Public Institutions of Higher Education

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

| Fiscal Impact | <u>Year 1</u> | <u>Year 2</u> | <u>Year 3</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| State Cost | | Indeterminate Increase | |

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) notes that the bill may lead to an indeterminate increase in State expenditures. The bill directs the Secretary of Higher Education to establish a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to provide grants to public institutions of higher education with one or more campuses designated by the secretary as such campuses. While the bill appropriates \$1 million for the program, it is not clear how long this amount can sustain the program. The OLS is uncertain about the number of institutions that will qualify for and seek to secure grant funding. Relevant factors that could impact the cost of the grant program are to be established by the secretary, such as whether it will be a multi-year grant program, the number of grants that may be awarded by the secretary, and the amount of the individual grants.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education to establish a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address the issue of food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education. Under the bill, grants will be provided to institutions that have

one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding is to:

- address student hunger;
- leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food needs on campus;
- raise awareness of services currently offered on campus which address basic food needs; and
- continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, State, and national levels to address food insecurity among students.

In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus, the institution is required to:

- establish a Campus Hunger Task Force that meets a minimum of three times per academic year to set at least two goals with action plans;
- designate a staff member responsible for assisting students with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP);
- provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at campus stores that meet the federal standards set by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States Department of Agriculture;
- participate in an awareness day campaign activity and plan a campus awareness event during the National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week;
- provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-free arrangement;
- develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free meal vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a “Swipe Out Hunger” program; and
- annually conduct a student survey on hunger and submit the survey results and a best practices campus profile to the secretary.

Under the bill, the secretary will allocate grant funding to each public institution of higher education that has one or more campuses designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus. The secretary will determine the amount of each grant which will be used by the institution to further address food insecurity among students enrolled in the institution.

The bill appropriates the sum of \$1 million from the General Fund to the Department of State for the grant program.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS notes that the bill may lead to an indeterminate increase in State expenditures. The bill directs the Secretary of Higher Education to establish a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to provide grants to public institutions of higher education with one or more campuses designated by the secretary as such campuses. While the bill provides an initial \$1 million in grant funding, it is not clear how long this amount can sustain the program. The OLS is unsure how many institutions will qualify for and seek to secure grant funding.

Relevant factors that will impact the cost of the grant program to be established by the secretary, such as whether it will be a multi-year grant program, the number of grants that may be awarded by the secretary, and the amount of the individual grants.

Section: Education

*Analyst: Adrian Crook
Senior Research Analyst*

*Approved: Frank W. Haines III
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

SENATE, No. 3239

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 26, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Cruz-Perez and Madden

SYNOPSIS

“Hunger-Free Campus Act”; requires Secretary of Higher Education to establish grant program to address food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education; appropriates \$1 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/1/2019)

1 AN ACT concerning food insecurity among students enrolled in
2 public institutions of higher education, supplementing chapter 62
3 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and making an
4 appropriation.

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

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48 each campus designated as a hunger-free campus. In the

1 development of the survey, the secretary may utilize any existing
2 surveys designed to collect information on food insecurity among
3 students enrolled in public institutions of higher education.

4
5 4. The secretary shall allocate grant funding to each public
6 institution of higher education that has one or more campuses
7 designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus in accordance
8 with the criteria established pursuant to section 3 of this act. The
9 secretary shall determine the amount of each grant which shall be
10 used by the institution to further address food insecurity among
11 students enrolled in the institution.

12
13 5. The secretary shall submit a report to the Governor, and to
14 the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
15 19.1), no later than two years after the establishment of the Hunger-
16 Free Campus Grant Program. The report shall include, but not be
17 limited to, the number and amounts of the grant awards, the impact
18 the grant program has had on establishing additional hunger-free
19 campuses at public institutions of higher education and reducing the
20 number of students experiencing food insecurity, and
21 recommendations on the expansion of the grant program.

22
23 6. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
24 Department of State the sum of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of
25 effectuating the provisions of this act.

26
27 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

28
29
30 STATEMENT

31
32 This bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education to establish
33 a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address the issue of food
34 insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher
35 education. Under the bill, grants will be provided to institutions that
36 have one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as
37 hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding is to:

- 38
- 39 • address student hunger;
 - 40 • leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food
41 needs on campus;
 - 42 • raise awareness of services currently offered on campus
43 which address basic food needs; and
 - 44 • continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, State,
45 and national levels to address food insecurity among
46 students.

47 In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus, the institution
is required to, at a minimum:

- 1 • establish a hunger task force that meets a minimum of three
- 2 times per academic year to set at least two goals with action
- 3 plans;
- 4 • designate a staff member responsible for assisting students
- 5 with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
- 6 Assistance Program (SNAP);
- 7 • provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at
- 8 campus stores;
- 9 • provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or
- 10 enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-
- 11 free arrangement; and
- 12 • develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing
- 13 program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free
- 14 meal vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a
- 15 “Swipe Out Hunger” program.

16 Under the bill, the secretary will allocate grant funding to each
17 public institution of higher education that has one or more
18 campuses designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus. The
19 secretary will determine the amount of each grant which will be
20 used by the institution to further address food insecurity among
21 students enrolled in the institution.

22 The bill also requires the secretary to submit a report to the
23 Governor and the Legislature no later than two years after the
24 establishment of the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program. The
25 report will include information on the number and amounts of the
26 grant awards, the impact the grant program has had on establishing
27 additional hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher
28 education and reducing the number of students experiencing food
29 insecurity, and recommendations on the expansion of the grant
30 program.

31 The bill appropriates the sum of \$1 million from the General
32 Fund to the Department of State for the grant program.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 3239

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 31, 2019

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 3239.

As amended by the committee, this bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education to establish a Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address the issue of food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education. Under the bill, grants will be provided to institutions that have one or more campuses that are designated by the secretary as hunger-free campuses. The purpose of the grant funding is to:

- address student hunger;
- leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food needs on campus;
- raise awareness of services currently offered on campus which address basic food needs; and
- continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, State, and national levels to address food insecurity among students.

In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus, the institution is required to, at a minimum:

- establish a Campus Hunger Task Force that meets a minimum of three times per academic year to set at least two goals with action plans;
- designate a staff member responsible for assisting students with enrollment in the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that meet the federal standards set by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States Department of Agriculture;
- provide options for students to utilize SNAP benefits at campus stores;
- provide at least one physical food pantry on campus, or enable students to receive food through a separate, stigma-free arrangement;
- develop a “Swipe Out Hunger” student meal credit sharing program, or designate a certain amount of funds for free meal vouchers that might otherwise be raised through a “Swipe Out Hunger” program; and

- annually conduct a student survey on hunger, and submit the survey results and a best practices campus profile to the secretary.

Under the bill, the secretary will allocate grant funding to each public institution of higher education that has one or more campuses designated by the secretary as a hunger-free campus. The secretary will determine the amount of each grant which will be used by the institution to further address food insecurity among students enrolled in the institution.

The bill also requires the secretary to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature no later than two years after the establishment of the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program. The report will include information on the number and amounts of the grant awards, the impact the grant program has had on establishing additional hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher education and reducing the number of students experiencing food insecurity, and recommendations on the expansion of the grant program.

The bill appropriates the sum of \$1 million from the General Fund to the Department of State for the grant program.

As reported by the committee with amendments, Senate Bill No. 3239 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 4702 (1R), which was also reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to specify that the hunger task force established by an institution of higher education will be referred to as the Campus Hunger Task Force, and to clarify that the campus stores at which students will be provided options to use SNAP benefits must meet the federal standards set by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States Department of Agriculture.



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Newark, N.J.

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation to Fight Hunger in New Jersey

05/9/2019

TRENTON – Alongside Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, bill sponsors and advocates, Governor Phil Murphy today signed a legislative package into law to fight hunger in New Jersey.

“In the richest nation in the world, it is a moral failure that so many of our fellow New Jerseyans don’t have enough food to eat,” **said Governor Phil Murphy**. “This comprehensive approach will allow us to leverage New Jersey’s strengths to better provide for our residents, so families can provide for themselves and their children. I applaud Speaker Coughlin for his leadership in this effort, as well as Senate President Sweeney and all of the sponsors for their hard work and commitment to eliminating food insecurity in New Jersey.”

The legislation signed today addresses New Jersey’s hunger crisis by coordinating efforts between government agencies, including the Department of Agriculture, the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, and the Office of the Chief Innovation Officer. The legislation confronts food deserts in New Jersey communities and hunger among students at the state’s colleges and universities, spreads information about resources through state websites, and discourages food waste, among other efforts.

Assembly Speaker Coughlin and the bills’ sponsors also spoke in support of this legislation:

“When I became Speaker, I vowed to make fighting hunger and promoting healthy eating in New Jersey a priority,” **said Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin**. “Today, we take an important step forward to address the reduction of food waste, food deserts, and food insecurity. By making these bills law, we will help farmers and help students enrolled in public institutions obtain an education without going hungry. No family should have to choose between paying their bills and eating a nutritious meal. With these new laws in place, it is my hope that those same families will no longer have to decide between those options.”

“People living in urban areas around the state often do not have access to affordable fresh produce, making it harder for them to make healthy choices. This not only impacts the food on their table each night but also the long term health of our most vulnerable communities,” **said Senate President Pro Tempore M. Teresa Ruiz**. “Piloting a program with schools or organizations to have weekly farmers markets will allow us to determine a viable long-term solution for food deserts.”

“People need to be made aware of just how much food we waste every single year,” **said Senator Bob Smith**. “The United States throws away about 30-40 percent of all food, which then ends up accounting for over 20 percent of all waste in our landfills. This is just absolutely unacceptable. There are much better alternatives for the extra food. We could donate extra food to food pantries or homeless shelters and compost the food which expires. There is no conceivable reason we should ever be wasting food.”

“Many college kids around the state do not know where their next meal is coming from,” **said Senator Sandra Cunningham**. “Students cannot get the most out of their classes if they are going hungry. By addressing food insecurity at state universities we will help our best and brightest to reach their full potential.”

“New Jersey has countless resources for individuals and families who are struggling with food insecurity, but it can be challenging to find the right program in your area,” **said Senator James Beach**. “This legislation will allow more people to take advantage of the services available and get the help they need.”

“The use and enhancement of technology will help us to improve the quality of service we provide to the hungry and the homeless in New Jersey,” **said Senator Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr.** “Enhancing the NJOneApp will put those services right at the fingertips of those in need.”

“This is part of a larger effort to put an end to hunger and to alleviate food insecurity – with approximately 10 percent of New Jersey’s residents don’t know where their next meal is coming from,” **said Senator Joe Cryan**. “This is a hidden crisis experienced by families, senior citizens, students, the working poor and others who struggle to put food on the table. While they go hungry, an estimated 40 percent of the food produced in America goes uneaten or tossed away. Large food retailers can play a significant role in waste reduction so that we can feed the hungry.”

“Every day, people in New Jersey go hungry while, at the same time, perfectly adequate food gets thrown in the trash,” **said Senator Vin Gopal**. “This should be unacceptable by any standard and I hope that today is at least a small step in closing the gap between the abundance of food we have and the people who need it most.”

“1 million New Jersey residents go to bed hungry,” **said Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez**. “Many of whom do not have the means or are simply unaware of the various programs, food providers and anti-hunger initiatives our state has to offer. By adding an ‘Anti-Hunger Link’ to multiple state websites, we hope to raise awareness and reach those in need of food assistance in an effort to create a completely hunger-free state.”

“Hunger does not discriminate,” **said Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly**. “It affects all types of people – from those living in small communities to those living on college campuses. College meal plans can be costly for many families and students, and this grant money will significantly help our hard-working students who are in need of food assistance while they are getting an education.”

“These statistics are alarming and quite frankly, sad. To know that so many adults and children throughout New Jersey are hungry each day is heartbreaking,” **said Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo**. “These statistics, however, are not just about numbers. They are about people who don’t have enough food. Through this law, we’ll be taking action by donating to our community’s food banks and pantries that are the safety nets for those who face food insecurity.”

“The responsibilities of farmers are so vast that they often lack the time or resources to learn about every program offered by the Department of Agriculture, which include taxation programs, food donations, anti-hunger initiatives, as well as other programs,” **said Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling**. “By creating a Farm Liaison who can assist and encourage farmers to enroll in these programs, we will expand access to food for hungry people across New Jersey, as well as ease some of the financial and physical burdens for our state’s farmers.”

“For many New Jersey residents, consuming a healthy diet is a matter of access to healthy food and the means to purchase it,” **said Assemblyman Adam Taliaferro**. “While families may want to eat well-balanced meals, finances are often an issue. In many instances, nutritious food can be costly.”

“Forty percent of the food produced in the United States ends up uneaten and tossed into the garbage each year,” **said Assemblywoman Linda Carter**. “As one in ten residents in New Jersey face food insecurity, more than 400 pounds of food per person is lost or wasted. It’s a shame, and we must figure out actionable steps to prevent and reduce food waste going forward.”

“We need answers,” **said Assemblyman Pedro Mejia**. “How do we reduce food waste effectively and dramatically in this state? A task force with the sole focus of finding ways to prevent food loss will help us meet our goals and become more responsible with food donations.”

Assemblymembers Chiaravalloti, Spearman, and Mosquera released the following joint statement:

“There are many resources available to New Jersey residents who are food insecure and suffering from severe

hunger, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Need Families (TANF) and General Assistance through Work First New Jersey; but it remains a challenge to connect people to those vital services. That's why improving the NJOneApp, which already offers a simple, convenient way for residents to see if they qualify for food assistance programs, is a crucial step towards ending hunger in New Jersey.

"Under this new law, the NJOneApp will be redesigned to include all state anti-hunger programs. Users will be able to easily browse all the resources available to them and choose which will work best for their family. No longer will residents be unsure of where to turn, who to ask, or what help exists in New Jersey; the answers would be found at the touch of a button on their cell phone.

"We are pleased the Governor and our colleagues in the Legislature have joined the fight against hunger by supporting this measure and we thank Speaker Coughlin for including it in his sweeping anti-hunger bill package. We look forward to taking the next step in helping families in need."

The following bills were signed into law:

- **A4702 "Hunger-Free Campus Act" (Wimberly, Jasey, Mukherji/Cunningham, Ruiz)** — Requires Secretary of Higher Education to establish grant program to address food insecurity among students enrolled in public institutions of higher education; appropriates \$1 million.
- **A4704 (Taliaferro, Murphy, Verrelli/Ruiz, Cunningham)** — Directs Department of Agriculture to establish food desert produce pilot program.
- **A4708 (Houghtaling, Andrzejczak/Space, Gopal, Kean)** — Establishes Farm Liaison in Department of Agriculture.
- **A4703 (Lopez, Holley, Kennedy/Beach, Cruz-Perez)** — Requires Chief Technology Officer to establish "Anti-Hunger Link" for all State websites, providing information on emergency food services.
- **A4705 (Carter, Benson, Mejia/Smith, Codey)** — Establishes New Jersey Food Waste Task Force to make recommendations concerning food waste in New Jersey.
- **A4707 (Tucker, Downey, Calabrese/Smtih, Singelton)** — Directs Department of Agriculture to establish public awareness campaign for food waste.
- **AJR172 (Downey, Johnson, Holley/Gopal)** — Designates Thursday of third week of September of each year as "Food Waste Prevention Day" in New Jersey.
- **AJR60 (DeAngelo, Lopez, Chiaravalloti/Ruiz, Cunningham)** —Designates November of each year as "Food Pantry Donation Month" in New Jersey.
- **AJR174 (Mejia, Benson, Quijano, Lopez/Cryan, Greenstein)** — Urges large food retailers in State to reduce food waste.
- **AJR175 (Chiaravalloti, Spearman, Mosequra/Diegnan, Singelton)** — Urges Chief Innovation Officer to prioritize enhancement of NJOneApp to include all State anti-hunger programs.

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Governor Phil Murphy

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