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RWH/CL

P.L. 2018, CHAPTER 148, *approved December 17, 2018*

Senate, No. 2397

1 AN ACT concerning religious accommodations for students  
2 attending institutions of higher education and amending  
3 P.L.2008, c.10.

4

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

7

8 1. Section 1 of P.L.2008, c.10 (C.18A:3B-37) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 1. a. An institution of higher education shall provide any  
11 student who, for reason of a religious observance, cannot attend a  
12 test or examination at its regular administration with an alternative  
13 opportunity to take an equivalent test or examination. The  
14 alternative opportunity shall be offered as soon after or before the  
15 regular administration of the test as is possible, and at comparable  
16 times, places, and costs. The institution may request that the  
17 student provide a written explanation of the religious conflict  
18 signed by a clergyman of the student's place of worship.

19 b. An institution of higher education shall provide any student  
20 who, for reason of a religious observance, cannot attend class on a  
21 day when any type of assignment is due including, but not limited  
22 to, papers, presentations, or group assignments, with an alternative  
23 opportunity to complete the assignment. The alternative  
24 opportunity shall be offered as soon after or before the regular due  
25 date of the assignment as is possible, and at comparable times,  
26 places, and costs. The institution may request that the student  
27 provide a written explanation of the religious conflict signed by a  
28 clergyman of the student's place of worship. The institution shall  
29 not impose any type of penalty on a student who is unable to attend  
30 class for reason of a religious observance.

31 c. An institution of higher education shall provide any student  
32 who, for reason of a religious observance, is unable to register for  
33 courses on a day when students are eligible to participate in course  
34 registration with an alternative opportunity to register for courses.  
35 The alternative opportunity shall be offered as soon after or before  
36 the regular date of course registration as is possible, and at  
37 comparable times, places, and costs. The institution may request  
38 that the student provide a written explanation of the religious  
39 conflict signed by a clergyman of the student's place of worship.

40 (cf: P.L.2008, c.10, s.1)

41

42 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

**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.

STATEMENT

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Under current law, institutions of higher education are required to provide any student who, for reason of a religious observance, cannot attend a test or examination at its regular administration with an alternative opportunity to take an equivalent test or examination. This bill amends that law to also require that an institution provide a student who, for reason of a religious observance, cannot attend class on a day when any type of assignment is due, including papers, presentations, or group assignments, or who is unable to register for courses on a day when students are eligible to participate in course registration, with an alternative opportunity to complete the assignment or register for courses. The institution is not permitted to impose any type of penalty on a student who is unable to attend class for reason of a religious observance.

Under the bill, the institution may request that the student provide a written explanation of the religious conflict signed by a clergyman of the student's place of worship.

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Requires institutions of higher education to provide alternative arrangements to students unable to complete certain assignments by regular due date or register for courses because of day of religious observance.

# SENATE, No. 2397

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 5, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator VIN GOPAL**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Assemblyman GARY S. SCHAER**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman NANCY J. PINKIN**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

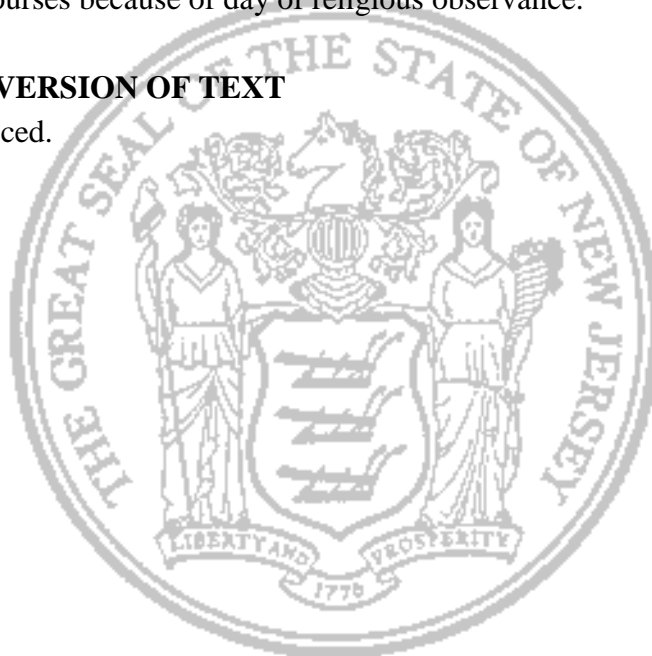
**Assemblywoman Jones and Assemblyman Johnson**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires institutions of higher education to provide alternative arrangements to students unable to complete certain assignments by regular due date or register for courses because of day of religious observance.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/30/2018)**

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2 attending institutions of higher education and amending  
3 P.L.2008, c.10.

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ASSEMBLY HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 2397**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

The Assembly Higher Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2397.

Under current law, institutions of higher education are required to provide any student who, for reason of a religious observance, cannot attend a test or examination at its regular administration with an alternative opportunity to take an equivalent test or examination. This bill amends that law to also require that an institution provide a student who, for reason of a religious observance, cannot attend class on a day when any type of assignment is due, including papers, presentations, or group assignments, or who is unable to register for courses on a day when students are eligible to participate in course registration, with an alternative opportunity to complete the assignment or register for courses. The institution is not permitted to impose any type of penalty on a student who is unable to attend class for reason of a religious observance.

Under the bill, the institution may request that the student provide a written explanation of the religious conflict signed by a clergyman of the student's place of worship.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3440, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.



SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 2397**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 14, 2018

The Senate Higher Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 2397.

Under current law, institutions of higher education are required to provide any student who, for reason of a religious observance, cannot attend a test or examination at its regular administration with an alternative opportunity to take an equivalent test or examination. This bill amends that law to also require that an institution provide a student who, for reason of a religious observance, cannot attend class on a day when any type of assignment is due, including papers, presentations, or group assignments, or who is unable to register for courses on a day when students are eligible to participate in course registration, with an alternative opportunity to complete the assignment or register for courses. The institution is not permitted to impose any type of penalty on a student who is unable to attend class for reason of a religious observance.

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# ASSEMBLY, No. 3440

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 5, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman GARY S. SCHAER**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman NANCY J. PINKIN**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

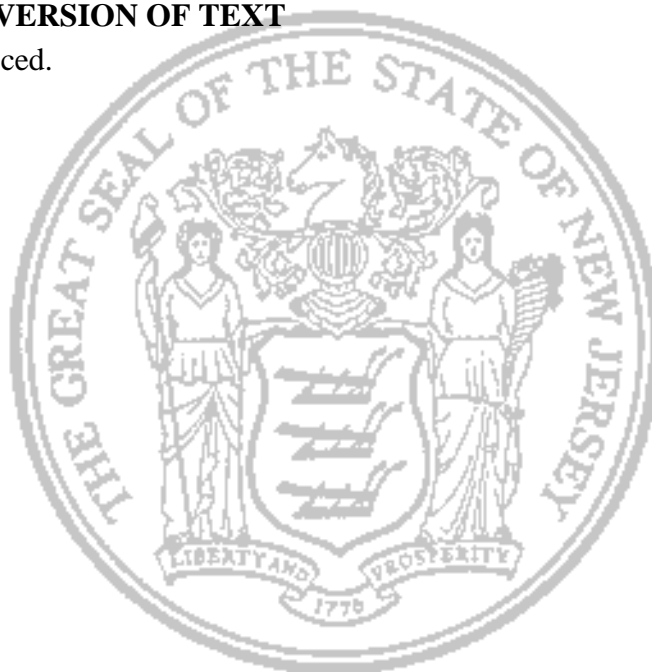
**Assemblywoman Jones and Assemblyman Johnson**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires institutions of higher education to provide alternative arrangements to students unable to complete certain assignments by regular due date or register for courses because of day of religious observance.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/30/2018)**

A3440 SCHAER, KARABINCHAK

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## Newark, N.J.

# Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

12/17/2018

**TRENTON** – Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed the following bills into law:

**A360 (Chiaravalloti, Danielsen, Mukherji/Pou, Cruz-Perez)** – Prohibits consumer reporting agencies from charging certain fees related to security freezes on consumer reports.

**A1039 (Houghtaling, Dancer, Andrzejczak, Space, Taliaferro/Gopal, Oroho)** – Directs the Division of Travel and Tourism to publish on its website information of farm-to-table restaurants.

**A2182 (DeAngelo, Wimberly, Quijano/Scutari, Singleton)** – Establishes an apprenticeship requirement to qualify for an electrical contractor's license.

**A3112 (Benson, Mukherji, Karabinchak/Beach, Oroho)** – Authorizes local units of government subject to "Local Public Contracts Law" and "Public School Contracts Law" to use electronic procurement technologies.

**A3731 (Tully, Swain, Wimberly/Lagana)** – Establishes "County Code Pilot Program" for certain counties.

**A4102 (Johnson, DeAngelo/Weinberg)** – Allows cigar bars and lounges to renew lapsed exemption from ban on indoor smoking under certain circumstances.

**S724 (Greenstein, Diegnan/Pinkin, Giblin, Jasey)** – Allows pharmacy interns and pharmacy externs to administer certain vaccines under direct supervision of pharmacist and requires reporting of certain vaccine administrations.

**S869 (Sweeney, Cunningham, Oroho/Jimenez, Lagana, Vainieri Huttie, Benson)** – Permits establishment by county and four-year institutions of higher education of three plus one degree programs for receipt of baccalaureate degree after spending three years at county college and one year at senior institution.

**S870 (Sweeney, Cunningham/Jasey, Schaer, Calabrese)** – Establishes Dual Enrollment Study Commission.

**S1869 (Scutari/Caputo, Holley)** – Prohibits sale of certain alarm business signs and decals.

**S1958 (Gopal, Scutari/Mukherji, Lopez, DeAngelo)** – Establishes permit to allow seasonal retail consumption license holders to sell alcoholic beverages during certain off-season dates.

**S2397 (Gopal/Schaer, Karabinchak, Pinkin)** – Requires institutions of higher education to provide alternative arrangements to students unable to complete certain assignments by regular due date or register for courses because of day of religious observance.

**S2839 (Gopal, Oroho, Greenstein/Houghtaling, Zwicker, DeAngelo)** – Makes General Fund supplemental appropriation of \$250,000 to New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program, Inc.

[Copy of Statement on S2839](#)

**S2845 (Vitale/Spearman, Mejia, Lopez)** – Amends Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations act to revise increase in Work

First New Jersey benefits.

**SJR18 (Pou, Greenstein/Murphy)** – Establishes "Commission to Review Constructive Sentences of Life Imprisonment on Juvenile Offenders."

Additionally, Governor Murphy announced that he has conditionally vetoed the following bills:

**A4342 (Tully, Swain, Benson, Jones/Lagana)** – Requires public school student to carry identification card at school-sponsored, off-campus activities and requires principal to keep list of students on school buses used for school-sponsored activities in case of emergencies.

[Copy of Statement on A4342](#)

**S393 (Madden, Singleton/DeAngelo, Murphy, Verrelli)** – Establishes Talent Network Program in DOLWD.

[Copy of Statement on S393](#)

**S1697 (Sarlo, Oroho/DeAngelo, Lagana, Space)** – Exempts fuel used for operation of certain school buses from petroleum products gross receipts tax and motor fuel tax; clarifies tax treatment of certain dyed fuel thereunder; clarifies determination of taxable estates of certain decedents.

[Copy of Statement on S1697](#)

**S2531 (Beach/Jones)** – Allows county governing body in certain counties to abolish offices of superintendent and deputy superintendent of elections and transfer functions to county board of elections.

[Copy of Statement on S2531](#)

Governor Murphy also announced that he has absolute vetoed the following bills:

**S2455 (Sweeney, Oroho/Murphy, McKnight, Mosquera)** – Transfers county college employees and retirees from membership in SEHBP to membership in SHBP.

[Copy of Statement on S2455](#)

**S3074 (Lagana/Pintor Marin, Greenwald)** - Provides for procurement by State of pharmacy benefits manager, automated reverse auction services, and claims adjudication services.

[Copy of Statement on S3074](#)

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## Governor Phil Murphy

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