

18A:64I-1 to 18A:64I-4

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

(Stokes State Forest--dedicate certain land to School of Conservation--Montclair State College)

NJSA 18A:64I-1 to 18A:64I-4

LAWS 1981

CHAPTER 148

Bill No. S1602

Sponsor(s) Dumont

Date Introduced Nov. 24, 1980

Committee: Assembly Education

Senate Revenue, Finance and Appropriations; Education

Amended during passage

Yes

~~xxx~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks. Substituted for A2300 (not attached since identical to S1602)

Date of Passage: Assembly May 2, 1981

Senate Feb. 9, 1981

Date of approval May 18, 1981

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement

Yes

~~xxx~~

Committee Statement: Assembly

Yes

~~xxx~~

Senate

Yes

~~xxx~~ 12-11-80 & 1-29-81

Fiscal Note

~~Yesx~~

No

Veto Message

~~Yesx~~

No

Message on signing

Yes

~~xxx~~

Following were printed:

Reports

~~Yesx~~

No

Hearings

~~Yesx~~

No

6/22/81

[SECOND OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

SENATE, No. 1602

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 24, 1980

By Senator DUMONT

Referred to Committee on Education

AN ACT concerning education ****[and]****, ****** supplementing Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes ****and making an appropriation****.

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

1 1. The 240 acre tract of land known as the New Jersey School of
2 Conservation, located in Stokes State Forest, Sussex county, New
3 Jersey, together with all the buildings thereon, and under the
4 management and control of the Division of Parks, Forestry and
5 Recreation in the Department of Environmental Protection, shall
6 be used in perpetuity as a school for environmental field study
7 under the direction of the Board of Trustees of Montclair State
8 College.

1 2. The Board of Trustees of Montclair State College shall expend
2 such sum or sums of money as may be included in any annual
3 appropriations act for the expenses necessary for the educational
4 program of the New Jersey School of Conservation, including the
5 maintenance of the buildings and grounds necessary for that
6 program.

1 3. The State Board of Higher Education shall include in its
2 annual request for appropriations, submitted to the Governor pur-
3 suant to N. J. S. 18A:3-14, a request for such sums as may be
4 necessary to maintain the New Jersey School of Conservation.
5 **Such funding shall be separate from and in addition to the regu-*
6 *lar formula support provided to Montclair State College and shall*
7 *not limit the funding provided to higher education as a sector.**

1 ****4. There is appropriated \$40,000.00 for the purposes of this**
2 **act.****

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

1 **[4.]** **5.** The Division of Parks, Forestry and Recreation
2 in the Department of Environmental Protection shall retain respon-
3 sibility for the care, management and preservation of the Stokes
4 State Forest reserve as provided for other State forest reserves
5 by P. L. 1966, c. 54, section 2 (C. 13:1B-15.101).

1 **[5.]** **6.** This act shall take effect **[on July 1, 1981]**
2 *immediately*.

SENATE, No. 1602

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 24, 1980

By Senator DUMONT

Referred to Committee on Education

AN ACT concerning education and supplementing Title 18A of the
New Jersey Statutes.

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

1 1. The 240 acre tract of land known as the New Jersey School of
2 Conservation, located in Stokes State Forest, Sussex county, New
3 Jersey, together with all the buildings thereon, and under the
4 management and control of the Division of Parks, Forestry and
5 Recreation in the Department of Environmental Protection, shall
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1 3. The State Board of Higher Education shall include in its
2 annual request for appropriations, submitted to the Governor pur-
3 suant to N. J. S. 18A:3-14, a request for such sums as may be
4 necessary to maintain the New Jersey School of Conservation.

1 4. The Division of Parks, Forestry and Recreation in the Depart-
2 ment of Environmental Protection shall retain responsibility for
3 the care, management and preservation of the Stokes State Forest
4 reserve as provided for other State forest reserves by P. L. 1966,
5 c. 54, section 2 (C. 13:1B-15.101).

1 5. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1981.

STATEMENT

This bill dedicates in perpetuity the use of the land in Stokes State Forest as the New Jersey School of Conservation and places the school under the direction of the Board of Trustees of Montclair State College. It authorizes Montclair and the Board of Higher Education to request appropriations for the maintenance of the school.

The New Jersey School of Conservation has been used since 1949 as a field campus for New Jersey colleges and public schools. Until recently the school was entirely self-supporting, maintaining itself through user fees. Over the last year, rising costs have led to a deficit of \$100,000.00. As a result the school is in danger of being closed.

This bill will allow Montclair State College to direct the school and seek appropriations, when necessary, to ensure the survival of the School of Conservation.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1602

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 23, 1981

PROVISIONS:

This bill dedicates in perpetuity the use of land in Stokes State Forest for the New Jersey School of Conservation and places the school under the direction of the Board of Trustees of Montclair State College. It authorizes Montclair, through the Board of Higher Education to request appropriations for the maintenance of the school.

Responsibility for overall forest management, which would include such things as reforestation, conservation, and fire prevention and control, remains with the Division of Parks, Forestry and Recreation in the Department of Environmental Protection.

As amended, Senate Bill No. 1602 provides that the funding for the School of Conservation in Stokes State Forest is to be in addition to the regular formula support provided to Montclair State College and that \$40,000.00 be appropriated to assist the School of Conservation during the current fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

The New Jersey School of Conservation is essentially self-supporting. The public schools which utilize the school pay a fee of between \$32.00-\$52.00 per pupil, depending on the duration of the course. It is anticipated that the State would make up the differential between these revenues and actual operating costs. For fiscal year 1980-81 the costs would be as follows:

Operating costs	\$515,000
Anticipated revenues	425,000
	<hr/>
Net State Cost	\$90,000

PROBLEM ADDRESSED:

The New Jersey School of Conservation was established in 1949 as an environmental field campus, serving both the public schools and the State colleges. The school trains teachers in environmental education, and provides a field laboratory experience for students and teachers. Initially the school was self-supporting. From 1968-1975, a State sub-

sidy of \$50,000.00 was provided. When that subsidy was eliminated, Montclair State College subsidized the school from its general operating budget. Montclair State College is unable to continue that financial support. The directors of the school are concerned that if fees are raised, many urban schools would be unable to participate in the program, thus depriving the neediest students of an opportunity for this field experience. This bill would restore the State subsidy, and allow the school to continue.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1602

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 11, 1980

PROVISIONS:

This bill dedicates in perpetuity the use of land in Stokes State Forest for the New Jersey School of Conservation and places the school under the direction of the Board of Trustees of Montclair State College. It authorizes Montclair, through the Board of Higher Education to request appropriations for the maintenance of the school.

Responsibility for overall forest management, which would include such things as reforestation, conservation, and fire prevention and control, remains with the Division of Parks, Forestry and Recreation in the Department of Environmental Protection.

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The New Jersey School of Conservation is essentially self-supporting. The public schools which utilize the school pay a fee of between \$32.00-\$52.00 per pupil, depending on the duration of the course. It is anticipated that the State would make up the differential between these revenues and actual operating costs. For fiscal year 1980-81 the costs would be as follows:

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SENATE REVENUE, FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 1602
with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 29, 1981

This committee concurs in the statement on the bill prepared by the Senate Education Committee.

The amendments adopted by this committee provide that the funding for the School of Conservation in Stokes State Forest is to be in addition to the regular formula support provided to Montclair State College.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

MAY 18, 1981

KATHRYN FORSYTH

Governor Brendan Byrne today signed S-1602, sponsored by Senator Wayne Dumont (R-Warren), which appropriates \$40,000 for the School of Conservation at Stokes State Forest and includes other provisions to address the school's recurring need for subsidies.

The School of Conservation is nominally attached to Montclair State College but leases its land in Stokes State Forest from the Department of Environmental Protection.

It provides environmental education to state school children for which local school districts pay user fees and it also serves as a site for college courses in environmental protection.

Revenues from the fees and other receipts have consistently fallen short of meeting the expenses of the school, and the \$40,000 appropriation will meet part of a projected \$100,000 deficit in the fiscal 1981 budget. Montclair State College is contributing \$55,000, drawn from its own budget, to help offset the deficit.

In order to ensure funding in the future, the bill requires the Board of Higher Education to include a request for the necessary funding for the school in its annual budget preparations. The request must be separate from the annual budget request for Montclair State.

The bill also assigns the responsibility of maintaining the school grounds to the Department of Environmental Protection.

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