



## NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE

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August 7, 2018

President Robert Barchi  
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
7 College Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1281

Dear President Barchi:

It has recently been reported that Rutgers has spent approximately \$11.5 million over the past few years in severance pay to coaches, athletic officials, and administrators, many of whom were fired for underperformance. This news comes as the University prepares to raise tuition 2.3% for its New Brunswick students in the coming academic year. This seems to me a gross misapplication of University resources.

To put in perspective, \$11.5 million would cover the tuition and fees of nearly 800 in-state students. How can the University justify raising tuition on students while dispensing huge payouts to departing athletics staff?

I believe the Legislature—and the public at large—deserve an explanation for this \$11.5 million expense. I struggle to see how these settlements and payouts support the University's academic mission.

The Legislature needs to know exactly how these lucrative contracts came into existence and how employees terminated because they failed to execute their jobs at the required level are entitled to any parachute – golden, silver or nylon.

And I am deeply concerned that \$11.5 million may be just the tip of the iceberg.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loretta Weinberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Loretta Weinberg  
Majority Leader  
New Jersey State Senate

LW/sm