



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF

**HIGHER
EDUCATION**

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Statement from Secretary Bridges on SCOTUS Affirmative Action Decision

TRENTON – Responding to the U.S. Supreme Court decision issued Thursday overturning the use of affirmative action policies in college admissions, New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education Dr. Brian K. Bridges issued the following statement:

“We are collectively disappointed in the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision today to overturn this landmark legal precedent, taking us backwards from greater opportunity for all during a time when our country desperately needs more student access and success. While the ruling will jeopardize the representation of underserved student populations on campuses nationwide, we are thankful New Jersey remains committed under Governor Murphy’s Administration to promoting equity and inclusion and supporting the success of students from all backgrounds and life circumstances. We equally recognize that a state is made stronger by valuing diversity in all spaces and that diversity at institutions of higher education fosters vibrant academic and social interactions that lead to positive learning outcomes. As we work with the Governor to promote equitable admissions within the constraints of this ruling, we want to assure our students most affected by this decision that our priorities for higher education will continue to focus on equity, access and affordability.”

