WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced recently in the New Jersey Senate (S2063) and the New Jersey Assembly (A3102) that would result in the dismemberment of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey by removing or significantly limiting Rutgers’ administration of some of its units; and

WHEREAS, this proposed legislation would also subject Rutgers’ academic and fiscal governance and policymaking to direct political influence from outside of Rutgers; and

WHEREAS, the Rutgers Board of Governors and Board of Trustees have both affirmed Principles Regarding Higher Education Restructuring (see http://www.newark.rutgers.edu/files/Principles06_06_12.pdf) and opposing this legislation; and

WHEREAS, spiraling costs, lack of faculty or administrative input, and a rush to act without transparency characterize this legislation; and

WHEREAS, large numbers of Rutgers faculty, administrators, students, staff, and alumni have condemned the proposals contained in this legislation as it stands; and

WHEREAS, many members of the Rutgers community seek to amend this legislation to preserve Rutgers governance and autonomy as well as employee rights; and

WHEREAS, the Rutgers University Senate is an established body of over 200 members from all areas of the Rutgers community, and as such functions as a collective voice of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and whose Executive Committee is empowered to act on its behalf in situations of urgency, which it deems to be the case in this matter;

Therefore BE IT RESOLVED that the Rutgers University Senate Executive Committee, on behalf of the University Senate, hereby registers strong opposition to the legislation as currently proposed, and urges all within the University community to join it in expressing opposition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University Senate urges the Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees to adhere to their stated Principles Regarding Higher Education Restructuring, and to utilize the full resources of the University to promote their enforcement.

Members of the 2011-12 Rutgers University Senate Executive Committee:
Panayotatos, Paul (Faculty), Chairperson
Gould, Ann (Faculty), Vice Chairperson
Barraco, Robert (Alumnus)
Borisovets, Natalie (Faculty)
Bubh, Daniel (Faculty)
Gillett, Peter (Faculty)
McKeever, Kenneth (Faculty)
Muse, Jonathan (Staff)
Paterno, Matthew (Student)
Puhak, Robert (Faculty)
Rosario, Daniel (Student)
Thompson, Karen (Faculty)
Yoon, Donggu (Student)