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HOUSE BILL 394

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Nick L. Salazar

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; CREATING THE WORK FORCE SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT FUND; PROVIDING MATCHING FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY
COLLEGE PROGRAMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. WORK FORCE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FUND CREATED--
ALLOCATIONS--APPLICATION REVIEW PANELS.--

A. The "work force skills development fund" is
created in the state treasury. The fund shall consist of
appropriations, income from investment of the fund, gifts,
grants, donations and bequests. Money in the fund shall not
revert at the end of any fiscal year. The fund shall be
administered by the commission on higher education and money in
the fund is appropriated to the commission to provide matching
funds to community colleges for the development, expansion and

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1 support of broad-based entry-level high-skills training
2 programs. Money from the fund shall be expended on warrants of
3 the secretary of finance and administration upon vouchers
4 signed by the executive director of the commission on higher
5 education or his authorized representative.

6 B. Individual community colleges or a consortium of
7 community colleges may apply for matching grants from the work
8 force skills development fund in accordance with rules
9 promulgated by the commission on higher education. Allocations
10 from the fund shall be based on a competitive process with
11 applications reviewed by a panel of education, business and
12 labor experts established by the commission. To apply for a
13 grant, a community college or consortium must have equal or
14 greater matching funds for the proposal from sources other than
15 the state.