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### SENATE BILL 357

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

Bernadette M. Sanchez

#### AN ACT

RELATING TO TAXATION; PROVIDING INCOME TAX AND CORPORATE INCOME TAX CREDITS FOR EMPLOYMENT OF YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN CERTAIN SUMMER SCHOOL-TO-CAREER JOB PROGRAMS.

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

Section 1. A new section of the Income Tax Act, Section 7-2-18.6 NMSA 1978, is enacted read:

**"7-2-18.6.** [NEW MATERIAL] JOB MENTORSHIP TAX CREDIT. --

To encourage New Mexico businesses to hire youth participating in certified school-to-career programs, a taxpayer who files an individual New Mexico income tax return, who is not a dependent of another individual and who is the owner of a New Mexico business may claim a credit in an amount equal to fifty percent of gross wages paid to qualified students who are employed by the business during the taxable

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year for which the return is filed. The tax credit may be known as the "job mentorship tax credit".

- A taxpayer who is the owner of a New Mexico business may claim the credit provided in this section for each taxable year in which the business employs one or more The maximum aggregate credit allowable qualified students. shall not exceed fifty percent of the gross wages paid to not more than ten qualified students employed by the business for up to three hundred twenty hours of employment of each qualified student in each taxable year for a maximum of three taxable years for each qualified student. In no event shall a taxpayer claim a credit in excess of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) in any taxable year. The taxpayer shall certify that hiring the qualified student does not displace or replace a current employee.
- The department shall allocate annually to the state school-to-work director certificates that shall be distributed by the state school-to-work director to administrators of certified school-to-career programs. certificates, when properly executed, shall serve as evidence of the taxpayer's eligibility for the job mentorship tax The maximum number of certificates that may be issued credi t. to a single school-to-career program administrator is equal to the number of qualified school-to-career participants in that program on May 1 of that calendar year. The certificates shall

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be issued in the order in which they are requested. To claim the credit pursuant to this section, the taxpayer must submit with respect to each employee for whom the credit is claimed:

- (1) a properly executed certificate;
- (2) information required by the secretary with respect to the employee's employment by the business during the taxable year for which the credit is claimed; and
- (3) information required by the secretary that the employee was not also employed in the same taxable year by another New Mexico business qualifying for and claiming a job mentorship tax credit for that employee pursuant to this section or the Corporate Income and Franchise Tax Act.
- D. The credit provided pursuant to this section may only be deducted from the taxpayer's New Mexico income tax liability for the taxable year. Any portion of the maximum tax credit provided by this section that remains unused at the end of the taxpayer's taxable year may be carried forward for three consecutive taxable years; provided the total tax credits claimed pursuant to this section shall not exceed the maximum allowable pursuant to Subsection B of this section.
- E. A husband and wife who file separate returns for a taxable year in which they could have filed a joint return may each claim only one-half of the credit that would have been allowed on a joint return.
- F. A taxpayer who otherwise qualifies for and 142943.1

claims a job mentorship tax credit for employment of qualified students by a partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, S corporation or other business association of which the taxpayer is a member may claim a credit only in proportion to his interest in the partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, S corporation or association. The total credit claimed by all members of the business shall not exceed the maximum tax credit allowable pursuant to Subsection B of this section.

#### G. As used in this section:

- (1) "certified school-to-career program" means a summer employment program certified by the state school-to-work office as a school-to-career program designed for secondary school students to create academic and career goals and objectives and find employment in a job meeting those goals and objectives;
- (2) "New Mexico business" means a partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, S corporation or sole proprietorship that carries on a trade or business in New Mexico and that employs in New Mexico fewer than three hundred full-time employees at any one time during the taxable year; and
- (3) "qualified student" means an individual who is at least fourteen years of age but not more than twenty. 142943.1

one years of age who is attending full time an accredited New Mexico secondary school and who is a participant in a certified school-to-career program."

Section 2. A new section of the Corporate Income and Franchise Tax Act, Section 7-2A-17 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

## "7-2A-17. [NEW MATERIAL] JOB MENTORSHIP TAX CREDIT. --

A. To encourage New Mexico businesses to hire youth participating in certified school-to-career programs, a taxpayer that is a New Mexico business and that files a corporate income tax return may claim a credit in an amount equal to fifty percent of gross wages paid to qualified students who are employed by the taxpayer during the taxable year for which the return is filed. The tax credit may be known as the "job mentorship tax credit".

B. A taxpayer may claim the credit provided in this section for each taxable year in which the taxpayer employs one or more qualified students. The maximum aggregate credit allowable shall not exceed fifty percent of the gross wages paid to not more than ten qualified students employed by the taxpayer for up to three hundred twenty hours of employment of each qualified student in each taxable year for a maximum of three taxable years for each qualified student. In no event shall a taxpayer claim a credit in excess of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) in any taxable year. The employer shall

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replace a current employee.

- The department shall allocate annually to the state school-to-work director certificates that shall be distributed by the state school-to-work director to administrators of certified school-to-career programs. The certificates, when properly executed, shall serve as evidence of the taxpayer's eligibility for the job mentorship tax credit. The maximum number of certificates that may be issued to a single school-to-career program administrator is equal to the number of qualified school-to-career participants in that program on May 1 of that year. The certificates shall be issued in the order in which they are requested. To claim the credit under this section, the taxpayer must submit with respect to each employee for whom the credit is claimed:
  - (1) a properly executed certificate;
- (2) information required by the secretary with respect to the employee's employment by the taxpayer during the taxable year for which the credit is claimed; and
- (3) information required by the secretary that the employee was not also employed in the same taxable year by another New Mexico business qualifying for and claiming a job mentorship tax credit for that employee pursuant to this section or the Income Tax Act.
- D. The credit provided pursuant to this section may . 142943. 1

only be deducted from the taxpayer's corporate income tax
liability for the taxable year. Any portion of the maximum tax
credit provided by this section that remains unused at the end
of the taxpayer's taxable year may be carried forward for three
consecutive taxable years; provided the total tax credits
claimed pursuant to this section shall not exceed the maximum
allowable under Subsection B of this section.

E. As used in this section:

- (1) "certified school-to-career program" means a summer employment program certified by the state school-to-work office as a school-to-career program designed for secondary school students to create academic and career goals and objectives and find employment in a job meeting those goals and objectives;
- (2) "New Mexico business" means a corporation that carries on a trade or business in New Mexico and that employs in New Mexico fewer than three hundred full-time employees during the taxable year; and
- (3) "qualified student" means an individual who is at least fourteen years of age but not more than twenty-one years of age who is attending full time an accredited New Mexico secondary school and who is a participant in a certified school-to-career program."

Section 3. APPLICABILITY.--The provisions of this act apply to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2003. . 142943.1