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SENATE BILL 676

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

Mark Boitano

AN ACT

RELATING TO TAXATION; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE INCOME TAX ACT TO PROVIDE A CREDIT FOR FAMILIES CARING FOR CHILDREN AT HOME.

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

Section 1. A new section of the Income Tax Act is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] CREDIT FOR CHILD CARE AT HOME. --

A resident who files an individual New Mexico income tax return and who is not a dependent of another taxpayer may claim a credit of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350) for caring for one or more dependents at home during the taxable year if:

(1) the resident or, if a joint return is filed, one spouse is not gainfully employed for any period of

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the taxable year for which the credit is claimed; and

- (2) the resident or, if a joint return is filed, the spouse that is not gainfully employed cares full time for one or more qualifying dependents in the home for the entire taxable year.
- B. The credit provided in this section may only be deducted from the taxpayer's New Mexico income tax liability for the taxable year.
- C. A husband and wife maintaining a household for one or more qualifying dependents and filing separate returns for a taxable year for which they could have filed a joint return may each claim only one-half of the credit that would have been claimed on a joint return.
 - D. As used in this section:
- (1) "dependent" means "dependent" as defined by Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code;
- (2) "gainfully employed" means working for remuneration for others, either full time or part time, or self-employment in a business, partnership or other legal entity; and
- (3) "qualifying dependent" means a dependent who is twelve years of age or younger at the end of the taxable year."
- Section 2. APPLICABILITY. -- The provisions of this act apply to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2003. . 144218.1