

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL 78

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE COMPUTER SYSTEMS ENHANCEMENT FUND TO CORRECT EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY DEFICIENCIES AND TO REPLACE FUNCTIONALLY OBSOLETE COMPUTERS AND NETWORK DEVICES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO SUPPORT A SUSTAINABLE STATEWIDE SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR DISTANCE LEARNING.

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

Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS.--

A. Fifty-nine million five hundred thousand dollars (\$59,500,000) is appropriated from the computer systems enhancement fund to the following funds or agencies for expenditure as provided for the following purposes:

(1) twenty-seven million dollars (\$27,000,000) to the educational technology deficiency correction fund for

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underscored material = new
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1 expenditure in fiscal year 2007 and subsequent fiscal years to
2 make allocations to correct serious deficiencies in educational
3 technology infrastructure pursuant to the Technology for
4 Education Act. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance
5 remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert;

6 (2) twenty-four million dollars (\$24,000,000)
7 to the public education department for expenditure in fiscal
8 years 2007 and 2008 to make distributions to school districts
9 to replace functionally obsolete computers and network devices
10 in accordance with the statewide plan for the integration of
11 educational technology into the public schools. Any unexpended
12 or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year
13 2008 shall revert to the computer systems enhancement fund; and

14 (3) eight million five hundred thousand
15 dollars (\$8,500,000) to the higher education department for
16 expenditure in fiscal years 2007 and 2008 to fund the
17 infrastructure for a sustainable statewide support system for
18 distance learning in New Mexico, including purchase of
19 equipment, software, materials and contractual services. Any
20 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
21 fiscal year 2008 shall revert to the computer systems
22 enhancement fund.

23 B. Two million six hundred fifty thousand dollars
24 (\$2,650,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
25 following agencies for expenditure in fiscal years 2007 and

.166692.1

1 2008 to support the creation of the statewide cyber academy:

2 (1) one million four hundred fifty thousand
3 dollars (\$1,450,000) to the higher education department for
4 program administration, information technology services and
5 maintenance costs; and

6 (2) one million two hundred thousand dollars
7 (\$1,200,000) to the public education department to be allocated
8 as follows:

9 (a) six hundred thirty thousand dollars
10 (\$630,000) for initial program costs for the statewide cyber
11 academy for program administration, professional development,
12 curriculum development and purchase and operating costs;

13 (b) one hundred twenty thousand dollars
14 (\$120,000) for distribution to regional education cooperatives
15 three, eight and nine for distance learning networks to
16 facilitate the exchange of courses and teaching services, and
17 to enable member public schools to offer their students more
18 rigorous and more relevant courses, including offering algebra
19 1 to middle school students, and to offer their teachers and
20 administrators expanded professional development opportunities.
21 The regional education cooperative distance learning networks
22 may serve as regional hosting sites for the statewide cyber
23 academy, and shall conduct an annual evaluation of the quality
24 and cost-effectiveness of its provision of distance learning.
25 If the evaluation of the distance learning networks indicates

.166692.1

1 that they are providing quality distance education, increased
2 rigor in curricula and are cost-effective, the public education
3 department may replicate distance learning networks in the
4 remaining regional education cooperatives;

5 (c) fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for
6 distribution to Rio Rancho public schools for the Rio Rancho
7 cyber academy to fund its operation and the expansion of its
8 course offerings; and

9 (d) four hundred thousand dollars
10 (\$400,000) for distribution to school districts to support
11 distance learning.

12 C. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining
13 of the appropriations in Subsection B of this section at the
14 end of fiscal year 2008 shall revert to the general fund.