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SENATE BILL 503

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

Sue Wilson Beffort

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO STUDY POST-SECONDARY STUDENT HEALTH CARE AND FACTORS INCIDENT TO THE PROVISION OF HEALTH CARE TO POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Section 1. APPROPRIATION.--

A. Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the higher education department for expenditure in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 to study post-secondary student health care and factors incident to providing that health care, including determining:

(1) the number of students with and without health care coverage;

(2) the sources of health care coverage for students who have health care coverage;

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1 (3) the cost of coverage for all of the
2 students and the cost of coverage for those not currently
3 covered;

4 (4) the current role of student health care
5 services and what expanded services can be offered through
6 student health care programs;

7 (5) the cost of expanding student health care
8 services;

9 (6) the effect that mandatory assessment of
10 health care coverage fees would have on student enrollment or
11 attendance; and

12 (7) possible funding mechanisms for coverage
13 for student health care, such as institutional scholarship
14 funding, funding from the College Affordability Act or funding
15 from other state resources.

16 B. The higher education department shall report to
17 the legislative finance committee, the legislative education
18 study committee and any other appropriate interim committees on
19 the study findings by October 30, 2008.

20 C. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining
21 at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general
22 fund.

23 Section 2. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
24 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.