

1 SENATE BILL 291

2 **50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Cynthia Nava

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9  
10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE; REQUIRING  
12 INSTITUTIONS THAT OFFER GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
13 CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE  
14 COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LAW.

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

17 SECTION 1. Section 22-12-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1967,  
18 Chapter 16, Section 170, as amended by Laws 2007, Chapter 307,  
19 Section 6 and by Laws 2007, Chapter 308, Section 6) is amended  
20 to read:

21 "22-12-2. COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE--RESPONSIBILITY.--

22 A. Except as otherwise provided, a school-age  
23 person shall attend public school, private school, home school,  
24 [~~or~~] a state institution or an institution offering a general  
25 educational development certificate program until the school-

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1 age person is at least eighteen years of age unless that person  
2 has graduated from high school or received a general  
3 educational development certificate. A parent may give  
4 written, signed permission for the school-age person to leave  
5 school in case of hardship approved by the local  
6 superintendent.

7 B. A school-age person subject to the provisions of  
8 the Compulsory School Attendance Law shall attend school for at  
9 least the length of time of the school year that is established  
10 in the school district in which the person is a resident or the  
11 state-chartered charter school in which the person is enrolled,  
12 and the school district or state-chartered charter school shall  
13 not excuse a student from attending school except as provided  
14 in that law or for parent-authorized medical reasons.

15 C. Any parent of a school-age person subject to the  
16 provisions of the Compulsory School Attendance Law is  
17 responsible for the school attendance of that person.

18 D. Each local school board and each governing body  
19 of a charter school, [~~or~~] private school, state institution or  
20 institution offering a general educational development  
21 certificate program shall enforce the provisions of the  
22 Compulsory School Attendance Law for students enrolled in their  
23 respective schools."