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SENATE BILL 413

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

INTRODUCED BY

Cynthia Nava

AN ACT

RELATING TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS; GIVING SCHOOL DISTRICTS CONTROL OVER SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 22-15-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1967, Chapter 16, Section 213, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-15-9. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL.--

A. On or before April 1 of each year, the department shall allocate to each school district, state institution or private school as agent not less than ninety percent of its estimated entitlement as determined from the estimated forty-day membership for the next school year. A school district's, state institution's or private school's entitlement is that portion of the total amount of the annual

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appropriation less a deduction for a reasonable reserve for emergency expenses that its forty-day membership bears to the forty-day membership of the entire state. For the purpose of this allocation, additional pupils shall be counted as six pupils. The allocation for adult basic education shall be based on a full-time equivalency obtained by multiplying the total previous year's enrollment by .25. The department shall transfer the amount of the allocation for adult basic education to the adult basic education fund.

- B. On or before January 15 of each year, the department shall recompute each entitlement using the forty-day membership for that year, except for adult basic education, and shall allocate the balance of the annual appropriation adjusting for any [over- or under-estimation] overestimation or underestimation made in the first allocation.
- C. [An amount not to exceed fifty] One hundred
 percent of the allocations attributed to each school district
 or state institution may be used for instructional material not
 included on the multiple list provided for in Section 22-15-8

 NMSA 1978, and up to twenty-five percent [of this amount] may
 be used for other classroom materials. [The local
 superintendent may apply to the department for a waiver of the
 use of funds allocated for the purchase of instructional
 material either included or not included on the multiple list.

 If the waiver is granted, the school district shall not be

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required to submit a budget adjustment request to the department.] Private schools may expend up to fifty percent of their instructional material funds for items that are not on the multiple list; provided that no funds shall be expended for religious, sectarian or nonsecular materials; and provided further that all instructional material purchases shall be through an in-state depository.

- D. The department shall establish procedures for the distribution of funds directly to school districts and state institutions. Prior to the final distribution of funds to any school district or charter school, the department shall verify that the local school board or governing body has adopted a policy that requires that every student have a textbook for each class that conforms to curriculum requirements and that allows students to take those textbooks home.
- E. The department shall provide payment to an in-state depository on behalf of a private school for instructional material.
- F. A school district or state institution that has funds remaining for the purchase of instructional material at the end of the fiscal year shall retain those funds for expenditure in subsequent years. Any balance remaining in an instructional material account of a private school at the end of the fiscal year shall remain available

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for reimbursement by the department for instructional material purchases in subsequent years."

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