

**FIFTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 2017**

March 1, 2017

Mr. Speaker:

Your **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**, to whom has been referred

HOUSE BILL 498

has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation that it **DO PASS**, amended as follows:

1. On page 1, line 12, before the semicolon, insert "OR BY A CREDENTIAL".

2. On pages 10 and 11, strike Subsections O and P in their entirety and insert in lieu thereof:

"O. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, a high school student may test out of high school early and graduate with a diploma of excellence, including a state seal of bilingualism-biliteracy as provided in Section 22-1-9.1 NMSA 1978 if applicable, with the permission of the student's parent and if the student:

(1) obtains one of the following:

(a) a score in the top twenty percentile of students on the most current administration of the ACT, SAT or armed services vocational aptitude battery;

(b) a department-approved cut-score on another academic or technical and vocational assessment approved by the department; or

(c) a department-approved industry-recognized credential;

(2) notifies, no later than October 1 of the school year in which the student wishes to graduate early, the high school in writing, including the parent's signature, of the student's intent to graduate early; and

(3) attends a meeting with the student's parent and the student's principal and any other relevant school personnel to advise the student of any known consequences related to early graduation.

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P. A student in grade nine, ten or eleven who meets the conditions of Subsection 0 of this section is required to finish the school year in which the student is enrolled and shall be granted a diploma of excellence only upon completion of that school year. A student who is in grade twelve who meets the conditions of Subsection 0 of this section prior to the end of the first semester of the school year in which the student is enrolled shall be granted a diploma upon completion of that semester and is not required to complete the second semester."

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Garcia Richard, Chair

Adopted _____
(Chief Clerk)

Not Adopted _____
(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against
Yes: 10
No: 0
Excused: Sariñana, Stapleton, Trujillo, L.
Absent: None

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