

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

SENATE BILL 182

**53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017**

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Kay Papen

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE; ENACTING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LAND GRANT ACT; CREATING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LAND GRANT PERMANENT FUND AND THE EARLY CHILDHOOD INCOME FUND; PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL DISTRIBUTIONS FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LAND GRANT PERMANENT FUND AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF THOSE DISTRIBUTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the "Early Childhood Land Grant Act".

SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.--The legislature finds that:

A. New Mexico has the highest rate of child poverty in the United States, according to a study by New Mexico voices for children;

B. brain and biological development during the

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 first years of life is highly influenced by environment, and  
2 early childhood experiences may determine health, education,  
3 economic and social participation for the rest of a person's  
4 life;

5 C. achievement gaps among children begin extremely  
6 early and persist. Science has shown that achievement gaps  
7 that exist between children in poverty and their more  
8 economically advantaged peers are evident as early as eighteen  
9 months;

10 D. children who start behind in school tend to stay  
11 behind, an achievement gap that multiplies over time. To break  
12 this cycle, it is important to focus on children when they are  
13 very young;

14 E. the social and financial costs to New Mexico and  
15 the United States for failed potential in children are  
16 enormous, and these costs could be ameliorated by adequate  
17 funding for early childhood services;

18 F. in its report on early childhood, the world  
19 health organization noted that "globally, societies that invest  
20 in children and families in early years, whether rich or poor,  
21 have the most literate and numerate populations. These are  
22 also the societies that have the best health status and lowest  
23 levels of health inequality in the world";

24 G. investing in young children is an essential  
25 component for the development of New Mexico, as early

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 opportunities for learning increase the likelihood that a child  
2 will attend school and, as an adult, achieve higher income,  
3 maintain better health, experience less crime and have lower  
4 levels of welfare dependence than those who do not receive  
5 early development support;

6 H. long-term studies have shown that for every one  
7 dollar (\$1.00) the state invests in early childhood programs,  
8 it can receive a return of up to approximately ten dollars  
9 (\$10.00) over the life of the child, and, because these  
10 programs improve academic outcomes, early childhood programs  
11 can improve workforce readiness and job productivity;

12 I. the state of New Mexico does not currently have  
13 sufficient resources to address these problems;

14 J. addressing these issues may reduce both the  
15 federal and state need to allocate future resources to  
16 remediate the lasting effects on these children's educational  
17 and life development;

18 K. the federal government holds a vast amount of  
19 unleased federal subsurface mineral acreage beneath private  
20 land within New Mexico; and

21 L. this unleased federal subsurface mineral acreage  
22 beneath private land within New Mexico could be transferred to  
23 the state of New Mexico and managed by the state land office to  
24 be held in trust for the purpose of raising revenue to  
25 specifically support and fund early childhood services.

.204503.3SA

1           SECTION 3.   [NEW MATERIAL] EARLY CHILDHOOD LAND GRANT

2   PERMANENT FUND--INVESTMENT--DISTRIBUTION.--

3           A.   The "early childhood land grant permanent fund"  
4   is created in the state treasury.  The state treasurer shall  
5   deposit in the early childhood land grant permanent fund all  
6   money generated by the commissioner of public lands and the  
7   state land office through the management, care, custody,  
8   control and disposition of any and all unleased federal  
9   subsurface mineral acreage beneath private land transferred to  
10   the state of New Mexico after the effective date of the Early  
11   Childhood Land Grant Act; provided that none of the lands were  
12   granted or could be construed to have been granted under the  
13   Enabling Act for New Mexico.  Exempted from the provisions of  
14   this section is money generated in counties with a population  
15   over one hundred forty thousand.

16           B.   Money in the fund shall be invested by the state  
17   investment officer as land grant permanent funds are invested  
18   pursuant to Chapter 6, Article 8 NMSA 1978.  Money in the fund  
19   shall not be expended for any purpose, but an annual  
20   distribution shall be made to the early childhood income fund  
21   in accordance with Subsection C of this section for  
22   appropriation by the legislature for early childhood services  
23   and for state land office management of any and all unleased  
24   federal subsurface mineral acreage beneath private land  
25   transferred from the federal government to the state of New

.204503.3SA

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 Mexico after the effective date of the Early Childhood Land  
2 Grant Act for the benefit of early childhood services as  
3 provided by law. Earnings from investment of the fund shall be  
4 credited to the fund.

5 C. An annual distribution shall be made from the  
6 early childhood land grant permanent fund to the early  
7 childhood income fund in an amount equal to the interest,  
8 dividends and capital gains of the early childhood land grant  
9 permanent fund as generated under the care of the state  
10 investment officer. The annual distribution shall be made no  
11 later than September 1 of each fiscal year.

12 SECTION 4. [NEW MATERIAL] EARLY CHILDHOOD INCOME FUND  
13 CREATED--PURPOSES.--

14 A. The "early childhood income fund" is created in  
15 the state treasury and shall consist of distributions made to  
16 the fund from the early childhood land grant permanent fund.  
17 Money in the fund may be appropriated by the legislature solely  
18 for the purposes specified in Subsections B and C of this  
19 section.

20 B. Ninety-five percent of the early childhood  
21 income fund shall be appropriated annually by the legislature  
22 for early childhood services as provided by law. As used in  
23 this section, "early childhood services" means nonsectarian  
24 services for children from birth until the age of kindergarten  
25 eligibility as provided by law.

.204503.3SA

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

C. Five percent of the early childhood income fund shall be appropriated annually to the state land office to provide for the costs incurred in generating revenue from the management, care, custody, control and disposition of the lands identified in Section 3 of the Early Childhood Land Grant Act for the benefit of early childhood services.

D. Unexpended or unencumbered balances remaining in the early childhood income fund at the end of any fiscal year shall revert to the early childhood land grant permanent fund.