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SENATE BILL 99

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

George K. Munoz

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; AUTHORIZING PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO
GRANT DIPLOMAS TO VIETNAM VETERANS.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"~~[NEW MATERIAL]~~ HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS--VIETNAM CONFLICT
VETERANS.--

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of the
Public School Code, a local school board may issue a high
school diploma to a Vietnam conflict veteran who:

(1) is an honorably discharged member of the
armed forces of the United States;

(2) was scheduled to graduate from high school
after February 28, 1961 and before May 7, 1975;

.216526.1

underscored material = new
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underscoring material = new
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1 (3) was a resident of New Mexico and attended
2 a high school in the locality of the current school district;
3 and

4 (4) left high school before graduation to
5 serve in the Vietnam conflict.

6 B. A local school board may issue a high school
7 diploma to a qualifying Vietnam conflict veteran regardless of
8 whether the veteran holds a high school equivalency credential
9 or is deceased.

10 C. The department shall adopt and promulgate rules
11 to carry out the provisions of this section, including:

12 (1) an application form to be submitted to the
13 local school board by the Vietnam conflict veteran or a person
14 acting on behalf of the veteran if the veteran is incapacitated
15 or deceased; and

16 (2) what constitutes acceptable evidence of
17 eligibility for a diploma."

18 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
19 provisions of this act is July 1, 2020.