

1 HOUSE BILL 508

2 **56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Cynthia Borrego and Tara L. Lujan

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; ENACTING A SECTION OF CHAPTER 21  
12 NMSA 1978; PROVIDING THAT THE CHILDREN OF FIRST RESPONDERS WHO  
13 ARE EMPLOYED BY STATE AGENCIES, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS,  
14 COUNTIES OR MUNICIPALITIES SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE IN-STATE  
15 RESIDENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING TUITION OR FEES AT  
16 STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING; REQUIRING RULEMAKING;  
17 PROVIDING A DEFINITION.

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

20 SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is  
21 enacted to read:

22 "[NEW MATERIAL] RESIDENT TUITION FOR CHILDREN OF FIRST  
23 RESPONDERS EMPLOYED BY GOVERNMENT ENTITIES.--

24 A. A child of a first responder who is employed by  
25 a state agency, an educational institution, a county or a

.225306.1

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

1 municipality shall be deemed an in-state resident for purposes  
2 of determining tuition and fees at all state institutions of  
3 higher learning; provided that the student shall submit proof  
4 of the student's relationship to a first responder on forms and  
5 in a manner that the higher education department shall  
6 determine by rule.

7 B. As used in this section "first responder" means  
8 a law enforcement officer, a firefighter, a paramedic or other  
9 emergency medical services provider who works in a field  
10 personnel position."

11 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
12 provisions of this act is July 1, 2023.