

1 SENATE BILL 289

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

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION
12 DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH A SCOPE AND SEQUENCE KINDERGARTEN
13 THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAM INTEGRATED
14 ACROSS SUBJECT AREAS; UPDATING ACADEMIC CONTENT AND PERFORMANCE
15 STANDARDS TO ENCOMPASS OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION;
16 PROVIDING FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

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

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

21 "[NEW MATERIAL] OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
22 PROGRAM--SCOPE AND SEQUENCE PLAN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELFTH
23 GRADE.--The department shall:

24 A. establish an outdoor and environmental education
25 program for all public schools that includes an organized

.224077.1

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1 developmental scope and sequence plan to integrate outdoor and
2 environmental education across subject areas in kindergarten
3 through twelfth grade;

4 B. update academic content and performance
5 standards to include outdoor and environmental education in
6 core and other subjects and determine how and when the scope
7 and sequence plan will be implemented through school grades and
8 subjects;

9 C. coordinate with school districts and public
10 post-secondary educational institutions to integrate outdoor
11 and environmental education into curricula for pre-service and
12 in-service training and professional development for teachers
13 in all grades; and

14 D. encourage informal education resources, such as
15 zoos, nature centers, wildlife rehabilitation centers, museums,
16 parks, water treatment facilities and others, to develop
17 complementary outdoor and environmental education programs."