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SENATE BILL 10

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

Heather Berghmans and Cindy Nava and Katy M. Duhigg
and Pete Campos and Shannon D. Pinto

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE; CREATING THE HEALTH TRAINING CORPS
WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; ESTABLISHING A STIPEND PROGRAM
FOR PRECEPTORS WHO SUPERVISE AND TRAIN HEALTH PROFESSIONAL
STUDENTS AND NEWLY LICENSED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS IN HEALTH CARE
UNDERSERVED AREAS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 24 NMSA 1978 is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the
"Health Training Corps Act"."

SECTION 2. A new section of Chapter 24 NMSA 1978 is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Health
Training Corps Act:

- 1 A. "corps" means the health training corps;
2 B. "department" means the department of health;
3 C. "fund" means the health training corps fund;
4 D. "health care underserved area" means a
5 geographic area or practice location in which it has been
6 determined by the department, through the use of indices and
7 other standards set by the department, that sufficient health
8 care services are not being provided;

9 E. "health professional" means a licensed or
10 certified physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant,
11 nurse-midwife or social worker;

12 F. "health professional student" means a person who
13 is receiving education and training to become a health
14 professional;

15 G. "health training site" means a health care
16 facility located in a health care underserved area that allows
17 health professional students and newly licensed health
18 professionals the opportunity to train and learn through
19 clinical experience; and

20 H. "preceptor" means an experienced health
21 professional who provides guidance, training and supervision to
22 health professional students and newly licensed health
23 professionals in a clinical setting."

24 SECTION 3. A new section of Chapter 24 NMSA 1978 is
25 enacted to read:

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1 "[NEW MATERIAL] HEALTH TRAINING CORPS--CREATED--POWERS AND
2 DUTIES.--

3 A. The "health training corps" is created in the
4 department to recruit and place preceptors in health training
5 sites.

6 B. The secretary of health may employ a director to
7 lead the corps. The director may employ support staff, and
8 employees of the corps shall be subject to the provisions of
9 the Personnel Act.

10 C. The corps has the power to:

11 (1) enter into contracts to carry out the
12 provisions of the Health Training Corps Act; and

13 (2) adopt rules, in accordance with the State
14 Rules Act, to carry out the provisions of the Health Training
15 Corps Act.

16 D. The corps shall:

17 (1) recruit health professionals to serve as
18 preceptors at health training sites;

19 (2) prioritize the placement of preceptors at
20 health training sites that provide behavioral health care,
21 primary health care and obstetrics and gynecological health
22 care;

23 (3) establish criteria and procedures for the
24 acceptance of applications and selection of preceptors;

25 (4) determine and maintain a list of eligible

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1 health training sites;

2 (5) determine the need for preceptors at each
3 health training site and assign preceptors as needed on a
4 priority basis; and

5 (6) provide support for preceptors at health
6 training sites."

7 SECTION 4. A new section of Chapter 24 NMSA 1978 is
8 enacted to read:

9 "[NEW MATERIAL] CORPS SERVICES--STIPENDS.--

10 A. A preceptor who is selected by the corps to
11 serve at a health training site shall be eligible for a stipend
12 equal to one hundred dollars (\$100) per hour of direct
13 guidance, training and supervision provided to health
14 professional students and newly licensed health professionals.

15 B. A preceptor shall document all guidance,
16 training and supervision provided to health professional
17 students and newly licensed health professionals. The
18 preceptor shall submit documentation of the guidance, training
19 and supervision to the department in a form and manner
20 prescribed by the department.

21 C. A preceptor shall not receive more than ten
22 thousand dollars (\$10,000) worth of stipends in any given
23 year."

24 SECTION 5. A new section of Chapter 24 NMSA 1978 is
25 enacted to read:

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1 "[NEW MATERIAL] LEGAL COUNSEL.--The office of general
2 counsel of the department shall provide legal services to the
3 corps. The general form of stipend contracts entered into
4 pursuant to the provisions of the Health Training Corps Act
5 shall be approved by a special assistant attorney general
6 employed by the department and signed by the preceptor and the
7 director of the corps or the director's authorized
8 representative on behalf of the state. The corps is vested
9 with full and complete authority and power to sue in its own
10 name for any balance due the state from a preceptor on a
11 stipend contract. Money paid pursuant to a contract shall be
12 deposited in the general fund."

13 SECTION 6. A new section of Chapter 24 NMSA 1978 is
14 enacted to read:

15 "[NEW MATERIAL] HEALTH TRAINING CORPS FUND.--

16 A. The "health training corps fund" is created as a
17 nonreverting fund in the state treasury. The fund consists of
18 appropriations, gifts, grants, donations, income from
19 investment of the fund and any other revenue credited to the
20 fund. The department shall administer the fund, and money in
21 the fund is appropriated to the department to carry out the
22 provisions of this section. Expenditures shall be by warrant
23 of the secretary of finance and administration pursuant to
24 vouchers signed by the secretary of health or the secretary's
25 authorized representative.

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B. Money in the fund may be used for:

- (1) recruiting preceptors;
- (2) training preceptors;
- (3) paying stipends to preceptors; and
- (4) providing support to preceptors located at

health training sites."

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION.--Three million dollars (\$3,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the health training corps fund for expenditure in fiscal year 2027 and subsequent fiscal years to carry out the purposes of the Health Training Corps Act. Any unexpended balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.