

underscored 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

SENATE BILL 200

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,  
2000**

INTRODUCED BY

Roman M. Maes III

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AMENDING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CODE  
BY ADDING A NEW SECTION TO REQUIRE STUDENTS IN THE PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS TO BE PROFICIENT IN READING BY THE END OF THE THIRD  
GRADE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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] READING PROFICIENCY BY THIRD GRADE--  
REQUIREMENT.--Prior to leaving the third grade, all students  
in public schools are required to be proficient in reading.  
The definition of reading proficiency shall be established by  
the state board. Only students with disabilities deemed  
incapable of being proficient in reading by the end of the  
third grade as determined by their educational instructor  
shall be exempted from this requirement. Additionally,

.131311.1

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

1 students who have been assessed as non-English or limited  
2 English proficient using state-approved language assessments  
3 and meeting required thresholds shall be exempted from this  
4 requirement and provided an alternative program in their  
5 primary language."

6 Section 2. APPROPRIATION.--Three million dollars  
7 (\$3,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the  
8 state department of public education for expenditure in  
9 fiscal year 2001 to fund a tutorial program in all school  
10 districts for students in public schools to be proficient in  
11 reading by the end of the third grade. Any unexpended or  
12 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2001  
13 shall revert to the general fund.