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HOUSE BILL 304

**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008**

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Helen Garcia

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; CREATING AN AT-RISK ACTIVITIES  
PILOT PROJECT AT LAS CRUCES HIGH SCHOOL; 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]~~ AT-RISK ACTIVITIES PILOT PROJECT--LAS  
CRUCES HIGH SCHOOL.--The department and the Las Cruces public  
school district shall design a four-year "at-risk activities  
pilot project" to be instituted at Las Cruces high school. The  
pilot project shall provide funding for extracurricular  
programs and student clubs that target students who are at risk  
of dropping out of school. The purpose of the pilot project is  
to determine whether such support for extracurricular

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1 activities will significantly improve the dropout rate at the  
2 high school. To receive funding, a student club or other  
3 extracurricular program or activity must have at least sixty  
4 percent of its membership identified by the school as students  
5 who are at risk of dropping out of school. The pilot project  
6 shall include an annual evaluation phase that tracks Las Cruces  
7 high school students and their academic achievements and  
8 provides other data sufficient to determine the efficacy of the  
9 pilot project. Insofar as practicable, data collection and  
10 reporting shall be consistent with requirements of the student  
11 teacher accountability reporting system. The department and  
12 the school district shall report to the legislative education  
13 study committee by July 1 of each year on the past school  
14 year's success in improving the academic standing of Las Cruces  
15 high school students. The department and school district shall  
16 provide a written report, including findings and  
17 recommendations, to the legislative education study committee  
18 at the end of the pilot project."

19 Section 2. APPROPRIATION.--Five hundred thousand dollars  
20 (\$500,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the public  
21 education department for expenditure in fiscal years 2009  
22 through 2013 for distribution to the Las Cruces public school  
23 district to implement an at-risk activities pilot project at  
24 Las Cruces high school. Of this appropriation, no more than  
25 five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year may be given to any one

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1 student club or other extracurricular program or activity. Any  
2 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of  
3 fiscal year 2013 shall revert to the general fund.

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