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AN ACT

RELATING TO THE NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTITUTE; EXPANDING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.

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

Section 1. Section 21-12-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 44, Section 2 and Laws 1989, Chapter 45, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"21-12-12. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION--CRITERIA.--

A. The General Richard T. Knowles legislative scholarship program shall be administered by the board of regents of the New Mexico military institute. The board of regents shall establish one hundred twelve scholarships available to New Mexico residents, one scholarship available for each state legislative district.

B. Annually, each state legislator may nominate four prospective scholarship recipients to the board of regents of the New Mexico military institute. If a legislator has no applicant from the legislator's district, that senator or representative may choose to nominate an applicant from a senate or representative district contiguous to the legislator's own district, thus maintaining geographical diversity in the corps of cadets while affording a greater opportunity for more New Mexicans to receive a scholarship. In the event no applicant is available by

1 July 1 of each year from either the legislator's district or
2 a contiguous district, the scholarship may be awarded to any
3 of the qualified nominees from any state legislative
4 district.

5 C. Scholarships shall be awarded to qualifying New
6 Mexico residents for a term not to exceed four years.

7 D. The board of regents shall establish criteria
8 for the awarding of scholarships. Criteria shall include
9 scholastic ability, faculty recommendations, standardized test
10 scores, letters of recommendation, school honors and
11 extracurricular activities." _____

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