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AN ACT

RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIPS; CHANGING
ELIGIBILITY FOR MILITARY VETERANS TO RECEIVE A LEGISLATIVE
LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP; RECONCILING MULTIPLE AMENDMENTS TO THE
SAME SECTION OF LAW IN LAWS 2007.

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

Section 1. Section 21-1-4.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
Chapter 71, Section 3, as amended by Laws 2007, Chapter 72,
Section 7 and by Laws 2007, Chapter 73, Section 1) is amended
to read:

"21-1-4.3. LEGISLATIVE LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIPS
AUTHORIZED--CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.--

A. To the extent that funds are made available by
the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the boards of
regents of New Mexico state university, New Mexico institute
of mining and technology, eastern New Mexico university,
western New Mexico university, the university of New Mexico,
New Mexico highlands university and northern New Mexico
college shall award legislative lottery scholarships for
tuition for qualified resident students attending their
respective institutions and branches of those institutions.

B. Except as otherwise authorized in this section,
the legislative lottery scholarships authorized in this
section shall apply only to full-time resident students who,

1 immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a
2 public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon
3 receiving a graduate equivalent diploma, are accepted for
4 entrance to and attend one of the state educational
5 institutions set forth in this section or one of the branches
6 of those institutions. Each legislative lottery scholarship
7 shall be awarded for up to four consecutive years beginning
8 the second semester of the recipient's first year of
9 enrollment if the recipient has maintained residency in New
10 Mexico and maintained a grade point average of 2.5 or higher
11 on a 4.0 scale during the first semester of full-time
12 enrollment.

13 C. The legislative lottery scholarships authorized
14 in this section shall also apply to full-time resident
15 students who, immediately upon completion of a high school
16 curriculum at a public or accredited private New Mexico high
17 school or upon receiving a graduate equivalent diploma,
18 attend a two-year public post-secondary educational
19 institution in New Mexico and who, upon the completion of
20 that curriculum or at the end of two years, whichever is
21 sooner, transfer to one of the post-secondary state
22 educational institutions set forth in this section. Those
23 students shall be eligible for a legislative lottery
24 scholarship for two consecutive years if they maintain
25 residency in New Mexico, maintain a grade point average of

1 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale and attend the institution full
2 time during the regular academic year.

3 D. The legislative lottery scholarships authorized
4 in this section shall also apply to full-time resident
5 students who:

6 (1) within one hundred twenty days of
7 completion of a high school curriculum at a public or
8 accredited private New Mexico high school, or of receiving a
9 graduate equivalent diploma, begin service in the United
10 States armed forces; and

11 (2) within one year of completion of
12 honorable service or medical discharge from the service
13 attend one of the state educational institutions set forth in
14 this section.

15 E. The higher education department shall prepare
16 guidelines setting forth explicit student continuing
17 eligibility criteria and guidelines for administration of the
18 legislative lottery scholarship program. Guidelines shall be
19 distributed to the board of regents of each institution to
20 enable a uniform availability of the resident student
21 legislative lottery scholarships.

22 F. For purposes of the legislative lottery
23 scholarship program as it applies to students with
24 disabilities who may require special accommodations, the
25 higher education department, in consultation with the student

