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SENATE BILL 231

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

George K. Munoz

AN ACT

RELATING TO TAXATION; ENACTING THE FOSTER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INCOME TAX CREDIT AND THE FOSTER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT CORPORATE INCOME TAX CREDIT.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of the Income Tax Act is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] FOSTER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INCOME TAX
CREDIT.--

A. A taxpayer who is not a dependent of another individual and who employs a qualified foster youth in New Mexico is eligible for a credit against the taxpayer's tax liability imposed pursuant to the Income Tax Act in an amount up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the gross wages paid to each qualified foster youth by the taxpayer during the taxable

year for which the return is filed. A taxpayer who employs a qualified foster youth for less than the full taxable year is eligible for a credit amount equal to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) multiplied by the fraction of a full year for which the qualified foster youth was employed. The tax credit provided by this section may be referred to as the "foster youth employment income tax credit".

- B. The purpose of the foster youth employment income tax credit is to encourage the employment of individuals who as youth were adjudicated as abused or neglected or who were in the legal custody of the children, youth and families department under the Children's Code or in the legal custody of a New Mexico Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or the United States department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs division of human services.
- C. A taxpayer may claim the foster youth employment income tax credit provided in this section for each taxable year in which the taxpayer employs one or more qualified foster youths; provided that the taxpayer may not claim the foster youth employment income tax credit for any individual qualified foster youth for more than one calendar year from the date of hire.
- D. That portion of a foster youth employment income tax credit approved by the department that exceeds a taxpayer's income tax liability in the taxable year in which the foster

youth employment income tax credit is claimed shall not be refunded to the taxpayer but may be carried forward for up to three years. The foster youth employment income tax credit shall not be transferred to another taxpayer.

- E. Married individuals filing separate returns for a taxable year for which they could have filed a joint return may each claim only one-half of the foster youth employment income tax credit that would have been claimed on a joint return.
- F. A taxpayer may be allocated the right to claim a foster youth employment income tax credit in proportion to the taxpayer's ownership interest if the taxpayer owns an interest in a business entity that is taxed for federal income tax purposes as a partnership or limited liability company and that business entity has met all of the requirements to be eligible for the credit. The total credit claimed by all members of the partnership or limited liability company shall not exceed the allowable credit pursuant to Subsection A of this section.
- G. The taxpayer shall submit to the department with respect to each employee for whom the foster youth employment income tax credit is claimed information required by the department with respect to the qualified foster youth's employment by the taxpayer during the taxable year for which the foster youth employment income tax credit is claimed, including information establishing that the employee is a

qualified foster youth that can be used to determine that the employee was not also employed in the same taxable year by another taxpayer claiming a foster youth employment income or corporate income tax credit for that employee pursuant to this section or the Corporate Income and Franchise Tax Act.

H. The department shall:

- (1) adopt rules establishing procedures to certify that an employee is a qualified foster youth for purposes of obtaining a foster youth employment income tax credit. The rules shall ensure that not more than one foster youth employment income tax credit per qualified foster youth shall be allowed in a taxable year and that the credits allowed per qualified foster youth are limited to a maximum of one year's employment; and
- (2) collaborate with the children, youth and families department, the New Mexico Indian nations, tribes and pueblos and the United States department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs division of human services to establish the certification procedures.
- I. A taxpayer allowed a tax credit pursuant to this section shall report the amount of the credit to the department in a manner required by the department.
- J. The department shall compile an annual report on the foster youth employment income tax credit that shall include the number of taxpayers approved by the department to

receive the credit, the aggregate amount of credits approved and any other information necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the credit. The department shall present the annual report to the revenue stabilization and tax policy committee and the legislative finance committee with an analysis of the effectiveness and cost of the tax credit and whether the tax credit is performing the purpose for which it was created.

K. As used in this section, "qualified foster youth" means an individual:

(1) who:

(a) is currently in the legal custody of the children, youth and families department pursuant to the Children's Code or in the legal custody of a New Mexico Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or the United States department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs division of human services; or

(b) within the seven years prior to the taxable year for which the tax credit is claimed, was aged fourteen years or older and was in the legal custody of the children, youth and families department pursuant to the Children's Code or in the legal custody of a New Mexico Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or the United States department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs division of human services;

(2) who works at least twenty hours per week

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during the taxable year for which the foster youth employment income tax credit is claimed; and

(3) who was not previously employed by the taxpayer prior to the taxable year for which the foster youth employment income tax credit is claimed."

SECTION 2. A new section of the Corporate Income and Franchise Tax Act is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] FOSTER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT CORPORATE INCOME TAX CREDIT.--

A taxpayer that employs a qualified foster youth in New Mexico is eligible for a credit against the taxpayer's tax liability imposed pursuant to the Corporate Income and Franchise Tax Act in an amount up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the gross wages paid to each qualified foster youth by the taxpayer during the taxable year for which the return is filed. A taxpayer that employs a qualified foster youth for less than the full taxable year is eligible for a credit amount equal to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) multiplied by the fraction of a full year for which the qualified foster youth was employed. The tax credit provided by this section may be referred to as the "foster youth employment corporate income tax credit".

The purpose of the foster youth employment В. corporate income tax credit is to encourage the employment of individuals who as youth were adjudicated as abused or

neglected or who were in the legal custody of the children, youth and families department under the Children's Code or in the legal custody of a New Mexico Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or the United States department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs division of human services.

- C. A taxpayer may claim the foster youth employment corporate income tax credit provided in this section for each taxable year in which the taxpayer employs one or more qualified foster youths; provided that the taxpayer may not claim the foster youth employment corporate income tax credit for any individual qualified foster youth for more than one calendar year from the date of hire.
- D. That portion of a foster youth employment corporate income tax credit approved by the department that exceeds a taxpayer's corporate income tax liability in the taxable year in which the foster youth employment corporate income tax credit is claimed shall not be refunded to the taxpayer but may be carried forward for up to three years. The foster youth employment corporate income tax credit shall not be transferred to another taxpayer.
- E. The taxpayer shall submit to the department with respect to each employee for whom the foster youth employment corporate income tax credit is claimed information required by the department with respect to the qualified foster youth's employment by the taxpayer during the taxable year for which

the foster youth employment corporate income tax credit is claimed, including information establishing that the employee is a qualified foster youth that can be used to determine that the employee was not also employed in the same taxable year by another taxpayer claiming a foster youth employment income or corporate income tax credit for that employee pursuant to this section or the Income Tax Act.

F. The department shall:

- certify that an employee is a qualified foster youth for purposes of obtaining a foster youth employment corporate income tax credit. The rules shall ensure that not more than one foster youth employment corporate income tax credit per qualified foster youth shall be allowed in a taxable year and that the credits allowed per qualified foster youth are limited to a maximum of one year's employment; and
- (2) collaborate with the children, youth and families department, the New Mexico Indian nations, tribes and pueblos and the United States department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs division of human services to establish the certification procedures.
- G. A taxpayer allowed a tax credit pursuant to this section shall report the amount of the credit to the department in a manner required by the department.
- H. The department shall compile an annual report on .209948.2

the foster youth employment corporate income tax credit that shall include the number of taxpayers approved by the department to receive the credit, the aggregate amount of credits approved and any other information necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the credit. The department shall present the annual report to the revenue stabilization and tax policy committee and the legislative finance committee with an analysis of the effectiveness and cost of the tax credit and whether the tax credit is performing the purpose for which it was created.

I. As used in this section, "qualified foster youth" means an individual:

(1) who:

(a) is currently in the legal custody of the children, youth and families department pursuant to the Children's Code or in the legal custody of a New Mexico Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or the United States department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs division of human services; or

(b) within the seven years prior to the taxable year for which the tax credit is claimed, was aged fourteen years or older and was in the legal custody of the children, youth and families department pursuant to the Children's Code or in the legal custody of a New Mexico Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or the United States department of the

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- (2) who works at least twenty hours per week during the taxable year for which the foster youth employment corporate income tax credit is claimed; and
- (3) who was not previously employed by the taxpayer prior to the taxable year for which the foster youth employment corporate income tax credit is claimed."
- SECTION 3. APPLICABILITY.--The provisions of this act apply to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

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