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SENATE BILL 472

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

CYNTHIA NAVA

AN ACT

AUTHORIZING LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS TO GRANT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS TO STUDENTS WHO FULFILL INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAMS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Section 1. Section 22-2-8.4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986, Chapter 33, Section 5, as amended by Laws 1995, Chapter 174, Section 1 and also by Laws 1995, Chapter 180, Section 1) is amended to read:

"22-2-8.4. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS. --

A. At the end of the eighth grade or during the ninth grade, each student shall prepare an individual program of study for grades nine through twelve. The program of study shall be signed by a student's parent or guardian.

B. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade

Underscored material = new
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1 in the 1986-87 school year, successful completion of a minimum
2 of twenty-three units shall be required for graduation. These
3 units shall be as follows:

4 (1) four units in English, with major emphasis
5 on grammar and literature;

6 (2) three units in mathematics;

7 (3) two units in science, one of which shall
8 have a laboratory component;

9 (4) three units in social science, which shall
10 include United States history and geography, world history and
11 geography and government and economics;

12 (5) one unit in physical fitness;

13 (6) one unit in communication skills, with
14 major emphasis on writing and speaking, which may include a
15 language other than English; and

16 (7) nine elective units. Only the following
17 elective units shall be counted toward meeting the requirements
18 for graduation: fine arts, [~~i.e.~~] including music, band, chorus
19 and art; practical arts; physical education; languages other
20 than English; speech; drama; vocational education; mathematics;
21 science; English; [~~R.O.T.C.~~] reserve officer training corps
22 social science; computer science; health education; and other
23 electives approved by the state board.

24 With the approval of the local school board, participation
25 on an athletic team or in an athletic sport during the school

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1 day may count toward fulfillment of the physical education
2 required unit.

3 C. Final examinations shall be administered to all
4 students in all classes offered for credit.

5 D. ~~[Beginning with students entering the ninth grade~~
6 ~~in the 1986-87 school year]~~ Except as provided in Subsection E
7 no student shall receive a high school diploma who has not
8 passed a state competency examination in the subject areas of
9 reading, English, math, science and social science. Beginning
10 with the 1997-98 school year, the state competency examinations
11 on social science shall include a section on the constitution of
12 the United States and the constitution of New Mexico. If a
13 student exits from the school system at the end of grade twelve
14 without having passed a state competency examination, he shall
15 receive an appropriate state certificate indicating the number
16 of credits earned and the grade completed. If within five years
17 after a student exits from the school system he takes and passes
18 the state competency examination, he may receive a high school
19 diploma.

20 E. A student who receives special education services
21 and who has fulfilled the goals and objectives or course work
22 set forth in his individualized education program shall, upon
23 the recommendation of the individualized education committee,
24 receive a high school diploma.

25 ~~[E.]~~ F. The state board may establish a policy to

1 provide for administrative interpretations to clarify curricular
2 and testing provisions of the Public School Code."

3 Section 2. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
4 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

February 13, 1997

Mr. President:

Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

SENATE BILL 472

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Nava, Chairman

Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

The roll call vote was 8 For 0 Against

Yes: 8

No: 0

Excused: Gorham, Pinto

Absent: None

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State of New Mexico
House of Representatives

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

March 12, 1997

Mr. Speaker:

Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

SENATE BILL 472

**has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS.**

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel F. Vigil, Chairman

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

HEC/SB 472

Page 8

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____
(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 7 For 0 Against

Yes: 7

Excused: Mallory, McSherry, Miera, Nicely, Trujillo, Gonzales

Absent: None

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Underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete