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HOUSE BILL 727

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

W. C. "Dub" Williams

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR CHARACTER COUNTS PROGRAMS
STATEWIDE.

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

Section 1. APPROPRIATION. --

A. Nine hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$985,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the state department of public education for expenditure in fiscal year 2000 for the purpose of paying for character counts programs statewide. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2000 shall revert to the general fund.

B. The appropriation made in this section shall be expended for the following purposes:

- (1) develop and maintain an electronic

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- 1 clearing-house, including a library, resource center and
- 2 communications; and
- 3 (2) provide programmatic activities,
- 4 including:
 - 5 (a) statewide training;
 - 6 (b) materials procurement and
 - 7 distribution;
 - 8 (c) consultation services and support
 - 9 for both new and existing programs;
 - 10 (d) community start-up initiatives; and
 - 11 (e) coordinate annual character
 - 12 development recognition programs.

13 C. The state department of public education shall
14 distribute the appropriation statewide to communities having
15 or initiating character development programs. The department
16 shall develop a request for proposal process for distribution
17 of the funds with the assistance of a statewide character
18 counts coordinating organization. Schools and communities
19 shall be eligible for:

- 20 (1) one dollar fifty cents (\$1.50) per
- 21 student for character development programs, activities and
- 22 materials, except that a minimum of five hundred dollars
- 23 (\$500) shall be made available to each school; and
- 24 (2) communities on a matching fund basis of
- 25 seventy-five cents (\$.75) per student, except that a minimum

1 of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) shall be made available to
2 each school.

3 D. Any funds not disbursed pursuant to Paragraphs
4 (1) and (2) of Subsection C of this section shall, within six
5 months of receipt, be allocated by the state department of
6 public education after seeking recommendations from a
7 statewide character counts coordinating organization.

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1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999
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6 March 5, 1999
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8 Mr. Speaker:
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10 Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred
11

12 HOUSE BILL 727
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14 has had it under consideration and reports same with
15 recommendation that it DO PASS, amended as follows:

16 1. On page 3, line 2, strike "school" and insert
17 "community".,
18

19 and thence referred to the APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE
20 COMMITTEE.
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

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Respectfully submitted,

Rick Miera, Chairman

Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

Yes: 10

Excused: Gonzales, Miera, Stapleton, Williams

Absent: Burpo, Marquardt

J: \99BillsWP\H0727

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