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HOUSE BILL 398

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

W. Ken Martinez

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; CREATING THE DROPOUT PREVENTION PILOT PROGRAM; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

Section 1. A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

" [NEW MATERIAL] DROPOUT PREVENTION PILOT PROGRAM - TELEPHONES - - NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS - - UNEXCUSED ABSENCES. - -

A. The department of education shall establish a "dropout prevention pilot program" at ten public high schools with the highest dropout rates.

B. The dropout prevention pilot program shall run from July 1, 2001 through July 1, 2005.

C. The department of education shall install a telephone in every classroom of each high school selected

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1 pursuant to Subsection A of this section.

2 D. The high school principal of each high school
3 selected pursuant to Subsection A of this section shall
4 provide each teacher with the home and work phone numbers of
5 the parent or legal guardian of each student. If a student
6 does not attend class, then a teacher shall call his parent to
7 notify him of the absence.

8 E. Every parent or legal guardian of a student
9 enrolled in one of the high schools selected pursuant to
10 Subsection A of this section shall provide to the principal
11 both his work and home telephone number.

12 F. The department of education shall seek private
13 enterprise-government partnerships with telephone companies to
14 minimize the cost of installing telephones.

15 G. The department of education shall report to the
16 legislative education study committee on changes in the
17 dropout rate in participating schools by December 1 of each
18 year that the dropout prevention pilot program is
19 implemented. "

20 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. --Two hundred forty-six
21 thousand dollars (\$246,000) is appropriated from the general
22 fund to the state department of public education for
23 expenditure in fiscal year 2002 for the purpose of installing
24 telephones in the classrooms of high schools participating in
25 the dropout prevention pilot program. Any unexpended or

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1 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2002
2 shall revert to the general fund.

3 Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. -- The effective date of the
4 provisions of this act is July 1, 2001.

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