

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL 729

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

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
EDUCATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING NECESSARY FULL-DAY
KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOMS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

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

Section 1. APPROPRIATION. --

A. Sixteen million seven hundred eighty-six
thousand dollars (\$16,786,000) is appropriated from the general
fund to the state department of public education for
expenditure in fiscal year 2002 to purchase portable classrooms
or to build classrooms for full-day kindergarten throughout New
Mexico. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at
the end of fiscal year 2002 shall revert to the general fund.

B. The state department of public education shall

1 adopt an application process for school districts that wish to
2 purchase portable classrooms or to build classrooms for full-
3 day kindergarten. The school districts shall submit
4 applications to the state department of public education by
5 July 1, 2001. School districts shall provide the following
6 information in the application to the state department of
7 public education:

8 (1) district enrollment by school in half-day
9 and full-day kindergarten for the 2000-2001 school year;

10 (2) the number of full-day kindergarten
11 classrooms to be constructed or purchased at each elementary
12 school in the district;

13 (3) whether the district is requesting brick
14 and mortar or portable full-day kindergarten classrooms;

15 (4) the signature of the district
16 superintendent approving the application; and

17 (5) verification from the superintendent of
18 public instruction that the need exists for portable classrooms
19 or built classrooms for full-day kindergarten.

20 C. When providing distributions to local school
21 districts pursuant to Subsections A and B of this section, the
22 state department of public education shall give priority to
23 those school districts that serve children in schools with the
24 highest proportion of students most in need based upon
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1 indicators in the at-risk factor. The state department of
2 public education shall also consider the local resources
3 available to build full-day kindergarten classrooms and the
4 possibility of converting existing classrooms to full-day
5 kindergarten classrooms.

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