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HOUSE BILL 307

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

INTRODUCED BY

Dona G. Irwin

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; ALLOWING BOARDS OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS TO ESTABLISH LEARNING CENTER DISTRICTS.

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

Section 1. Section 21-16A-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2000,
Chapter 105, Section 1) is amended to read:

"21-16A-1. SHORT TITLE. -- ~~[This act]~~ Chapter 21, Article
16A NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Learning Center Act". "

Section 2. Section 21-16A-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2000,
Chapter 105, Section 4) is amended to read:

"21-16A-4. ESTABLISHMENT OF LEARNING CENTER DISTRICTS--
DETERMINATION OF NEED-- APPROVAL-- ADVISORY COMMITTEE. --

A. A learning center district may be established
in a school district or community college district upon
adoption of a resolution by the local school board or

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1 community college board calling for establishment of a
2 district and a showing of need for such a district. A
3 district may also be established to include more than one
4 school district and, in that case, the two or more local
5 school boards shall jointly adopt a resolution and determine
6 the need for a learning center. A district may also be
7 established by a board of county commissioners upon adoption
8 of a resolution by the board of county commissioners calling
9 for establishment of a district and a showing of need for such
10 a district; provided that each community college board or
11 local school board located wholly or partially within the
12 county shall approve of the establishment prior to the
13 adoption of the resolution. The boundaries of the district
14 shall be coterminous with the boundaries of the school
15 district, community college district, [or] combined school
16 districts or county constituting the district. No district
17 shall be established without the written approval of the
18 commission.

19 B. Upon a determination of need and receipt of
20 written approval from the commission, the district shall be
21 established and the local school board, community college
22 board, [or] combined local school boards or board of county
23 commissioners authorizing the district shall serve as the
24 board. The board shall act as a representative of the
25 communities in the district for the purpose of assessing local

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1 educational needs and contracting with one or more
2 institutions to offer educational programs or services at one
3 or more learning centers.

4 C. The board may appoint an advisory committee
5 consisting of business representatives and citizens from the
6 area being served by a learning center to advise and assist
7 the board in determining the most appropriate educational and
8 training programs and services to be offered at the learning
9 center.

10 D. A learning center shall not be deemed to be an
11 institution, but the students enrolled at the center shall be
12 students of the respective institutions providing educational
13 programs and services.

14 E. The commission shall develop criteria for
15 determining the need for a district and the process and
16 procedures for establishing and operating a learning center. "