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SENATE BILL 424

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

INTRODUCED BY

Ramsay L. Gorham

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING AN INDEPENDENT STUDY OF
THE BUDGETS AND EXPENDITURES OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL
DISTRICTS; REQUIRING AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE
EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

Section 1. Section 22-8-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1967,
Chapter 16, Section 59, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-8-5. RULES--PROCEDURES.--

A. The department shall establish rules and
procedures for a uniform system of accounting and budgeting of
funds for all public schools and school districts of the
state. The rules, including revisions or amendments, shall
become effective only upon approval by the state board, the
legislative education study committee and the legislative

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1 finance committee and also upon filing with the state records
2 center and publication. A copy shall also be filed with the
3 department of finance and administration.

4 B. All public schools and school districts shall
5 comply with the rules and procedures prescribed and shall,
6 upon request, submit additional reports concerning finances to
7 the department. In addition, upon request, all public schools
8 and school districts shall file reports with the department
9 containing pertinent details regarding applications for
10 federal money or federal grants-in-aid or regarding federal
11 money or federal grants-in-aid received, including details of
12 programs, matching funds, personnel requirements, salary
13 provisions and program numbers, as indicated in the catalog of
14 federal domestic assistance, of the federal funds applied for
15 and of those received.

16 C. Upon request by the department of finance and
17 administration, the legislative finance committee or the
18 legislative education study committee, the department shall
19 timely furnish information and data obtained from public
20 schools and school districts pursuant to Subsection B of this
21 section.

22 D. The department shall contract with an
23 international accounting firm to conduct a detailed study of
24 the budgets and expenditures of all public schools and school
25 districts in the state, using the uniform system of accounting

1 and budgeting approved by the state board and the legislative
2 education study committee. Beginning July 1, 2004 and every
3 July 1 thereafter, the department shall report the findings of
4 the contractor's study to the legislative education study
5 committee and to each public school."

6 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. -- One million dollars
7 (\$1,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
8 state department of public education for expenditure in fiscal
9 year 2003 to contract with an international accounting firm to
10 conduct a detailed study of the budgets and expenditures of
11 all public schools and school districts in the state. Any
12 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
13 fiscal year 2003 shall revert to the general fund.

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