

1 SENATE BILL 528

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pete Campos

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE; AMENDING THE RAILROAD
12 PLANNING AND PROJECTS ACT; DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
13 TRANSPORTATION TO ADDRESS THE CONTINUATION OF AMTRAK SERVICE IN
14 NORTHERN NEW MEXICO; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

17 SECTION 1. Section 63-3A-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1985,
18 Chapter 36, Section 1) is amended to read:

19 "63-3A-1. SHORT TITLE.--~~[This act]~~ Chapter 63, Article 3A
20 NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Railroad Planning and Projects
21 Act"."

22 SECTION 2. A new section of the Railroad Planning and
23 Projects Act is enacted to read:

24 "[NEW MATERIAL] MAINTENANCE OF PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE IN
25 NORTHERN NEW MEXICO.--Beginning immediately after the effective

.213491.1

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1 date of this 2019 act, the department of transportation shall
2 engage in discussions or negotiations with Amtrak and BNSF
3 railway company and other appropriate parties, including the
4 federal railroad administration and the state of Colorado, for
5 the purpose of reaching accords that will lead toward meeting
6 the goals of the New Mexico state rail plan and will provide
7 that in consideration for support from New Mexico, including
8 constitutionally valid financial support, Amtrak shall continue
9 passenger service in northern New Mexico serving Lamy, Las
10 Vegas, Raton and the Philmont scout ranch."

11 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.--Five million dollars
12 (\$5,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
13 department of transportation for expenditure in fiscal year
14 2020 and subsequent fiscal years to provide constitutionally
15 valid financial support arising from any accord the department
16 of transportation may reach with Amtrak, BNSF railway company
17 and other appropriate parties as consideration for the
18 continuation by Amtrak of passenger rail service in northern
19 New Mexico. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining
20 at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general
21 fund.