SENATE BILL 325

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

This document may incorporate amendments proposed by a committee, but not yet adopted, as well as amendments that have been adopted during the current legislative session. The document is a tool to show amendments in context and cannot be used for the purpose of adding amendments to legislation.

AN ACT

RELATING TO CORRECTIONS; SEC→<mark>ESTABLISHING</mark>←SEC

SEC→IMPLEMENTING←SEC A POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COUNSELING FOR QUALIFIED INMATES IN ALL CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES; PROVIDING THAT LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRANT THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND THAT NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY DEVELOP THE CURRICULUM AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

.228772.1AIC February 21, 2025 (8:38pm)

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

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 33 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COUNSELING PROGRAM.--

A. The corrections department shall SEC→establish and administer ←SEC SEC→implement ←SEC a post-secondary education program for an associate degree in alcohol and drug abuse counseling for qualified inmates in all state correctional facilities, including facilities privately operated pursuant to a contract executed in accordance with Section 33-1-17 NMSA 1978.

B. Luna community college SEC→shall←SEC SEC→may←SEC grant the associate degree for the program, and New Mexico highlands university SEC→shall←SEC SEC→may←SEC develop the curriculum and provide technical assistance to the corrections department and Luna community college for the program's administration.

C. At minimum, the program shall:

(1) be accredited by the appropriate regional or national accrediting agency; and

(2) meet the licensing requirements for an alcohol and drug abuse counselor as provided in the Counseling and Therapy Practice Act."

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--Five hundred thousand dollars .228772.1AIC February 21, 2025 (8:38pm)

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(\$500,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the corrections department for expenditure in fiscal year 2026 and subsequent fiscal years to SEC→establish and administer←SEC SEC→implement←SEC a post-secondary education program for an associate degree in alcohol and drug abuse counseling SEC→and cover the costs for contracts for services, materials and other necessary costs←SEC . Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

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