

1 SENATE BILL 262

2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pete Campos

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9  
10 AN ACT

11 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO THE STATE PARKS DIVISION OF THE  
12 ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, THE  
13 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH  
14 FOR PROGRAM COORDINATORS TO OVERSEE CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECTS;  
15 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE  
16 UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO TO OVERSEE THE PROGRAM COORDINATORS  
17 AND CREATE AND MAINTAIN WEB PORTALS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO  
18 TRACK AND EVALUATE THE CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECTS.

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

21 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATIONS.--

22 A. One hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred  
23 dollars (\$137,500) is appropriated from the general fund to  
24 each of the following agencies for expenditure in fiscal year  
25 2026 and subsequent fiscal years to contract for services for a

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1 program coordinator to oversee citizen science projects in  
2 which members of the public volunteer to assist in conducting  
3 scientific research and collecting data on wildlife. Any  
4 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a  
5 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund:

6 (1) the state parks division of the energy,  
7 minerals and natural resources department;

8 (2) the department of environment; and

9 (3) the department of game and fish.

10 B. Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) is  
11 appropriated from the general fund to the board of regents of  
12 the university of New Mexico for expenditure in fiscal year  
13 2026 and subsequent fiscal years for natural heritage New  
14 Mexico, a program within the museum of southwestern biology and  
15 the biology department of the university, to contract for  
16 services to oversee citizen science project program  
17 coordinators and create and maintain web portals and  
18 information systems to track and evaluate the citizen science  
19 projects described in Subsection A of this section. Any  
20 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a  
21 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

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