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AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; PROVIDING THAT THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SHALL PAY THE COST OF HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY CREDENTIAL TESTS AND ASSOCIATED TEST PREPARATION COSTS FOR NEW MEXICO RESIDENTS.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 21, Article 1 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY CREDENTIAL TESTS--FREE FOR NEW MEXICO RESIDENTS.--The higher education department shall provide free high school equivalency credential tests to New Mexico residents who:

A. are at least sixteen years of age;

B. are not currently enrolled in secondary school;

C. have not graduated from an accredited high school or received a high school equivalency certificate or a diploma; and

D. have passed an official practice test with scores indicating test readiness."