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HOUSE BILL 74

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
2000**

INTRODUCED BY
Danice R. Picraux

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; ENACTING THE MIDDLE SCHOOL
INITIATIVE ACT; PRESCRIBING DUTIES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

Section 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as
the "Middle School Initiative Act"."

Section 2. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] PURPOSE.--The purpose of the Middle
School Initiative Act is to provide statewide before- and
after-school programs that include extracurricular activities
for students in grades six through nine to teach and develop
physical fitness, school pride and a sense of community."

Section 3. A new section of the Public School Code is

.130470.1

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

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1 enacted to read:

2 "[NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Middle
3 School Initiative Act:

4 A. "eligible school" means a public middle school
5 or junior high school, a public elementary school that
6 enrolls students in grade six or a public high school that
7 enrolls students in grade nine; and

8 B. "extracurricular activity" means a competitive
9 sport or other activity that supports academic, social,
10 leadership or other skills and that provides opportunities
11 for youth, including academic decathlon, cheerleading, drill
12 team, chess, journalism, mock trial, music, art, drama,
13 science fair, speech, student council, homework club or other
14 activity approved by the department of education."

15 Section 4. A new section of the Public School Code is
16 enacted to read:

17 "[NEW MATERIAL] EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES--
18 REQUIREMENTS--DISTRIBUTION.--

19 A. Students at each eligible school shall be
20 offered up to three extracurricular activities, including one
21 sport and two other activities, during the school year.
22 Students enrolled in grade six of an elementary school shall
23 be offered at least two extracurricular activities, including
24 one sport, during the school year. Students enrolled in
25 grade nine of a high school shall be offered at least two
extracurricular activities, including one sport, during the
school year.

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1 B. Extracurricular activities shall be conducted
2 before or after regular school hours.

3 C. A school district may employ teachers or other
4 persons to teach and supervise extracurricular activities;
5 provided that persons employed to teach sports shall be
6 qualified as provided by rules of the department of
7 education.

8 D. The department of education shall distribute
9 money to local school districts on an equal basis for each
10 middle school and junior high school. Elementary schools
11 with grade six and high schools with grade nine shall receive
12 one-half of the amount distributed to middle schools and
13 junior high schools.

14 E. Money distributed for extracurricular
15 activities may be expended for materials and other costs
16 associated with an activity; provided, however, that no more
17 than the maximum rate set by the local school board per
18 activity per semester may be used to employ teachers and
19 other supervisory personnel.

20 F. The department of education shall monitor
21 extracurricular activity programs and verify through the
22 budget and program review process that each eligible school
23 is complying with the provisions of the Middle School
24 Initiative Act and rules adopted pursuant to that act. If an
25 eligible school is not in compliance with the provisions of
that act or rules adopted pursuant to that act, the school
shall not be eligible for money for the following semester.

.130470.1

