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HOUSE BILL 459

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

INTRODUCED BY

R. David Pederson

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; CREATING THE MCKINLEY COUNTY LEARNING
CENTER; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

Section 1. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] LEARNING CENTER--CREATION--PURPOSE--
BOARD.--

A. The "McKinley county learning center" is
created to coordinate and provide upper division classes,
graduate education and other instruction that is not
authorized by Chapter 21, Article 14 NMSA 1978 as an approved
component of the branch community college vocational and
technical curricula and is needed to provide educational
opportunities in McKinley county.

B. All programs offered by the McKinley county

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1 learning center shall be existing programs offered by a four-
2 year post-secondary educational institution. The McKinley
3 county learning center shall not develop its own courses.

4 C. The local advisory board of the Gallup branch
5 of the university of New Mexico shall provide advisory and
6 policy oversight of the administration of the McKinley county
7 learning center and shall be authorized to:

- 8 (1) employ staff;
- 9 (2) enter into contracts and written
10 agreements and administer and oversee the implementation,
11 completion and enforcement of those contracts or written
12 agreements;
- 13 (3) sue and be sued;
- 14 (4) assess the educational needs of the
15 community and implement programs and courses as feasible and
16 needed;
- 17 (5) act as fiscal agent for the McKinley
18 county learning center to the extent appropriate;
- 19 (6) select the courses or programs to be
20 offered by the McKinley county learning center;
- 21 (7) manage the transfer and articulation of
22 credits for courses completed; and
- 23 (8) administer the process and requirements
24 for conferring degrees earned at the McKinley county learning
25 center."

Section 2. APPROPRIATION.--Seventy-five thousand
dollars (\$75,000) is appropriated from the general fund to

.132117.1

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1 the board of regents of the university of New Mexico for
2 expenditure in fiscal year 2001 for use by the Gallup branch
3 of the university of New Mexico to establish and initially
4 operate the McKinley county learning center. The
5 appropriation shall be used in the same manner as funding
6 that is provided to universities for residence instruction.
7 Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end
8 of fiscal year 2001 shall revert to the general fund.

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