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**HOUSE BILL 103**

**45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002**

**INTRODUCED BY**

**James G. Taylor**

**AN ACT**

**RELATING TO EDUCATION; CREATING A STUDENT TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; CREATING A FUND; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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

**Section 1. STUDENT TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**ESTABLISHED. --**

**A. In order to encourage individuals to enter the teaching profession and to retain teachers in New Mexico, the commission on higher education shall establish and administer a student teacher scholarship program.**

**B. The commission on higher education shall set forth explicit guidelines for administration of the student teacher scholarship program, including guidelines to:**

**(1) develop standardized methods to identify eligible scholarship recipients;**

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1 (2) distribute money from the student teacher  
2 scholarship fund to state-board-of-education-approved teacher  
3 training institutions;

4 (3) develop criteria for selection of  
5 scholarship recipients, which shall include academic  
6 performance, campus involvement, letters of recommendation and  
7 personal commitment to the teaching profession;

8 (4) pay full tuition for scholarship  
9 recipients for the semesters in which they are student  
10 teaching;

11 (5) verify that scholarship recipients are  
12 employed as full-time teachers in public or state-board-of-  
13 education-approved private school settings in New Mexico for  
14 at least one year after completion of student teaching;

15 (6) provide for the repayment within one year  
16 of all scholarship funds granted to a scholarship recipient if  
17 that recipient does not comply with the provisions of  
18 Paragraph (5) of this subsection; and

19 (7) ensure that recipients comply with all  
20 rules adopted by the commission on higher education for the  
21 scholarship program.

22 Section 2. STUDENT TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP FUND CREATED. --

23 The "student teacher scholarship fund" is created in the state  
24 treasury. Money in the fund shall not revert to the general  
25 fund at the end of a fiscal year. Money appropriated to the

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1 fund or accruing to it through gifts, grants, bequests and  
2 devises shall be deposited in the fund. The fund shall be  
3 invested as other state funds are invested and income from  
4 investment of the fund shall be credited to the fund. Money  
5 in the fund is appropriated to the commission on higher  
6 education to carry out the purposes of the student teacher  
7 scholarship program. Disbursements from the fund shall be  
8 made upon warrants drawn by the secretary of finance and  
9 administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the executive  
10 director of the commission on higher education or his  
11 designee. The commission shall use no more than three percent  
12 of the money in the fund for administration. The remaining  
13 money in the fund shall be used to carry out the student  
14 teacher scholarship program.

15 Section 3. APPROPRIATION. -- Seven hundred thousand  
16 dollars (\$700,000) is appropriated from the general fund to  
17 the student teacher scholarship fund for expenditure in fiscal  
18 year 2003 and subsequent fiscal years to carry out the  
19 provisions of Section 1 of this act. Any unexpended or  
20 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year  
21 shall not revert to the general fund.