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SENATE BILL 218

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

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Kay Papen

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; INCLUDING PARTICIPATION IN RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS AS FULFILLING THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION; REMOVING PARTICIPATION IN HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND AS FULFILLING THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION; RECONCILING DUAL AMENDMENTS TO LAWS 2001.

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

Section 1. Section 22-2-8.4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986, Chapter 33, Section 5, as amended by Laws 2001, Chapter 257, Section 1 and by Laws 2001, Chapter 276, Section 1) is amended to read:

"22-2-8.4. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS. --

A. At the end of the eighth grade or during the ninth grade, each student shall prepare an individual program

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1 of study for grades nine through twelve. The program of study
2 shall be signed by a student's parent or guardian.

3 B. ~~[Beginning with students entering the ninth~~
4 ~~grade in the 1986-87 school year]~~ Successful completion of a
5 minimum of twenty-three units shall be required for
6 graduation. These units shall be as follows:

7 (1) four units in English, with major
8 emphasis on grammar and literature;

9 (2) three units in mathematics;

10 (3) two units in science, one of which shall
11 have a laboratory component;

12 (4) three units in social science, which
13 shall include United States history and geography, world
14 history and geography, and government and economics;

15 (5) one unit in physical ~~[fitness]~~ education;

16 (6) one unit in communication skills, with
17 major emphasis on writing and speaking, which may include a
18 language other than English; and

19 (7) nine elective units. Only the following
20 elective units shall be counted toward meeting the
21 requirements for graduation: fine arts, i. e., music, band,
22 chorus and art; practical arts; physical education; languages
23 other than English; speech; drama; vocational education;
24 mathematics; science; English; ~~[R.-O.-T.-C.]~~ reserve officers'
25 training corps; social science; computer science; health

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1 education; American sign language; and other electives
2 approved by the state board.

3 With the approval of the local school board,
4 participation in reserve officers' training corps, on an
5 athletic team or in an athletic sport during the school day
6 may count toward fulfillment of the physical education
7 required unit.

8 C. Final examinations shall be administered to all
9 students in all classes offered for credit.

10 D. No student shall receive a high school diploma
11 who has not passed a state graduation examination in the
12 subject areas of reading, English, math, writing, science and
13 social science. [~~Beginning with the 1996-97 school year~~] The
14 state graduation examinations on social science shall include
15 a section on the constitution of the United States and the
16 constitution of New Mexico. If a student exits from the
17 school system at the end of grade twelve without having passed
18 a state graduation examination, he shall receive an
19 appropriate state certificate indicating the number of credits
20 earned and the grade completed. If within five years after a
21 student exits from the school system he takes and passes the
22 state graduation examination, he may receive a high school
23 diploma.

24 E. The state board may establish a policy to
25 provide for administrative interpretations to clarify

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1 curricular and testing provisions of the Public School
2 Code. "

3 Section 2. REPEAL. -- Laws 2001, Chapter 257, Section 1
4 is repealed.