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HOUSE BILL 843

**47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006**

INTRODUCED BY

Ben Lujan

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A STUDY OF THE EFFICACY OF CREATING  
A CENTER FOR GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN NORTHERN NEW  
MEXICO; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Section 1. APPROPRIATION.--

A. One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the board of regents of northern New Mexico state school for expenditure in fiscal years 2006 and 2007 to conduct a study on the efficacy of creating a center for graduate studies and research in northern New Mexico, in which universities offer graduate-level courses leading to master's and doctoral degrees. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

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1                   B. The study shall consider at least the following:

2                   (1) the need for offering off-campus programs  
3 leading to graduate degrees in northern New Mexico, including  
4 projected student enrollments and the potential area job market  
5 for graduates;

6                   (2) the fields of study for which there is  
7 demonstrated interest and the interest expressed by public  
8 post-secondary educational institutions to offer graduate-level  
9 course work at the center;

10                   (3) possible governance structures for the  
11 center;

12                   (4) operational and capital costs for the  
13 center and how programs would be funded through the higher  
14 education funding formula; and

15                   (5) whether other in-state and out-of-state  
16 post-secondary educational institutions should participate in  
17 offering graduate-level course work at the center.

18                   C. The board of regents of northern New Mexico  
19 state school shall report its findings and recommendations to  
20 the appropriate interim legislative committee by December 15,  
21 2006.

22                   Section 2. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public  
23 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.