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HOUSE BILL 481

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

INTRODUCED BY

Nora Espinoza

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; PROVIDING FOR RESIDENT TUITION  
AND FEE RATES FOR INTERNATIONAL AND NONRESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE  
STUDENTS STUDYING SCIENCE, COMPUTER SCIENCE, HEALTH,  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS OR BUSINESS AT  
CERTAIN UNIVERSITIES.

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] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the  
"Entrepreneurial International Student Tuition Act"."

SECTION 2. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is  
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the  
Entrepreneurial International Student Tuition Act:

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1           A. "department" means the higher education  
2 department;

3           B. "eligible program" means an undergraduate major  
4 course of study in science, computer science, health,  
5 information technology, engineering, mathematics or business;

6           C. "eligible student" means a student who is not a  
7 resident of New Mexico and who is enrolled in an eligible  
8 program and seeking a bachelor's degree at a participating  
9 university beginning in the 2015-2016 academic year and in  
10 subsequent years;

11           D. "nonresident tuition waiver" means the in-state  
12 resident tuition and fee rates granted to a student by a  
13 participating university pursuant to the Entrepreneurial  
14 International Student Tuition Act; and

15           E. "participating university" means the university  
16 of New Mexico, New Mexico state university, western New Mexico  
17 university, eastern New Mexico university, New Mexico highlands  
18 university and the New Mexico institute of mining and  
19 technology."

20           SECTION 3. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is  
21 enacted to read:

22           "[NEW MATERIAL] ELIGIBILITY AND RESTRICTION.--

23           A. A participating university may grant a  
24 nonresident tuition waiver to an eligible student, if:

25           (1) the participating university determines

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1 that the eligible student's academic record merits the award of  
2 a nonresident tuition waiver;

3 (2) the eligible student will reside in New  
4 Mexico while enrolled at the participating university; and

5 (3) the eligible student signs a statement  
6 indicating an interest in working or starting a business in New  
7 Mexico after graduation.

8 B. During any one academic year, the number of  
9 nonresident tuition waivers granted by a participating  
10 university shall not exceed five percent of that participating  
11 university's full-time-equivalent undergraduate enrollment for  
12 the previous year."

13 SECTION 4. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is  
14 enacted to read:

15 "[NEW MATERIAL] REQUIRED REPORTING.--A participating  
16 university that grants nonresident tuition waivers shall, at  
17 the end of every academic year during which nonresident tuition  
18 waivers were granted, report the following to the department:

19 A. the number of eligible students who received  
20 nonresident tuition waivers;

21 B. the area of study for each eligible student who  
22 received a nonresident tuition waiver;

23 C. the average grade point average of all eligible  
24 students who received nonresident tuition waivers for that  
25 year;

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1 D. the average grade point average of all students  
2 at the participating university for that year;

3 E. the graduation rate of eligible students who  
4 received nonresident tuition waivers for that year; and

5 F. the participating university's overall  
6 graduation rate for that year."

7 SECTION 5. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is  
8 enacted to read:

9 "[NEW MATERIAL] DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDING.--

10 A. If the department receives funding pursuant to  
11 the Entrepreneurial International Student Tuition Act, the  
12 department shall allocate those funds to each participating  
13 university that is granting nonresident tuition waivers. Funds  
14 shall be allocated between participating universities in  
15 proportion to the increase in enrollment of eligible students  
16 who are not citizens of the United States at each participating  
17 university for the previous year.

18 B. All funding received by a participating  
19 university, as provided for in Subsection A of this section,  
20 shall be used to enhance the science, computer science, health,  
21 information technology, engineering, mathematics and business  
22 programs at that participating university."

23 SECTION 6. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is  
24 enacted to read:

25 "[NEW MATERIAL] RULES AND POLICIES.--

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A. The department shall promulgate rules necessary to implement the provisions of and maintain records in connection with the Entrepreneurial International Student Tuition Act.

B. Every participating university shall adopt policies to implement the provisions of the Entrepreneurial International Student Tuition Act."

**SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2015.