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AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; CREATING CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE
AT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS TO PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT IN
THE CYBERSECURITY, SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, RENEWABLE ENERGY
INDUSTRIES AND BIOSCIENCE.

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:

"CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.--

A. A "center of excellence" is established at the
following higher education institutions:

(1) the New Mexico institute of mining and
technology to work toward developing and promoting innovation
in and expanding cybersecurity industries;

(2) New Mexico state university to work
toward developing and promoting innovation in and expanding
sustainable agricultural industries;

(3) San Juan college to work toward
developing and promoting innovation in and expanding
sustainable and renewable energy industries; and

(4) the university of New Mexico health
sciences center-affiliated entity, the New Mexico bioscience
authority, to continue its work toward developing, promoting
innovation in and expanding the bioscience industry in New

1 Mexico.

2 B. Each center of excellence provided for in
3 Subsection A of this section shall foster excellence in the
4 noted field through:

5 (1) collaboration among leaders of the
6 state's agencies, higher education institutions, business
7 sector, national laboratories and community organizations;

8 (2) the development by those leaders of
9 strategies to accomplish that aim; and

10 (3) the execution of those strategies.

11 C. Each center of excellence provided for in
12 Subsection A of this section shall:

13 (1) actively seek, and may accept, public
14 and private funding for its work;

15 (2) establish short- and long-term goals for
16 job creation, business creation and private equity investment
17 outcomes of its work; and

18 (3) beginning in 2020, report annually to
19 the higher education department and the legislative finance
20 committee on its goals and achievements."

21 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
22 provisions of this act is July 1, 2019. _____