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AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILDREN; AMENDING A SECTION OF CHAPTER 21,
ARTICLE 1 NMSA 1978 TO PROVIDE FOSTER CHILDREN GREATER ACCESS
TO TUITION AND FEE WAIVERS AT STATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21-1-4.7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2014,
Chapter 62, Section 1) is amended to read:

"21-1-4.7. FOSTER CHILD TUITION AND FEE WAIVER
ELIGIBILITY--NOTIFICATION.--

A. The state educational institutions set forth in
Article 12, Section 11 of the constitution of New Mexico and
their branches, community colleges as provided in Chapter 21,
Article 13 NMSA 1978 and technical and vocational institutes
as provided in Chapter 21, Article 16 NMSA 1978 shall not
charge tuition or fees pursuant to Section 21-1-4 NMSA 1978
to a student for whom the children, youth and families
department provides certification that the student was in the
legal custody of the children, youth and families department
pursuant to the Children's Code or for whom a New Mexico
Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or the United States
department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs division
of human services provides certification that the student was
in the legal custody of a New Mexico Indian nation, tribe or
pueblo or the United States department of the interior bureau

1 of Indian affairs division of human services on or after the
2 day of the student's fourteenth birthday, who enrolls in one
3 of the state educational institutions set forth in
4 Article 12, Section 11 of the constitution of New Mexico and
5 their branches, community colleges as provided in Chapter 21,
6 Article 13 NMSA 1978 and technical and vocational institutes
7 as provided in Chapter 21, Article 16 NMSA 1978 no later than
8 the day of the student's twenty-fifth birthday.

9 B. The higher education department shall
10 collaborate with the children, youth and families department,
11 the New Mexico Indian nations, tribes or pueblos and the
12 United States department of the interior bureau of Indian
13 affairs division of human services to ensure that middle
14 school and high school students who are or have been in the
15 legal custody of the children, youth and families department,
16 a New Mexico Indian nation, tribe or pueblo or the United
17 States department of the interior bureau of Indian affairs
18 division of human services learn about the provisions of this
19 section."

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