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HOUSE BILL 115

55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2022

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; CREATING A SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY,
ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS PILOT PROJECT CONDUCTED BY THE
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO MODEL SUPPORT PROGRAMS FOR
STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND
MATHEMATICS AND KINDERGARTEN THROUGH FOURTH GRADE READING AND
MATHEMATICS; REQUIRING THE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF TEACHER,
STUDENT AND PROGRAM DATA TO DETERMINE THE EFFICACY OF THE PILOT
PROJECT; CREATING A FUND; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND
MATHEMATICS PLUS PILOT PROJECT--SUPPORT PROGRAMMING FOR
TEACHERS AND STUDENTS--ELIGIBILITY--APPLICATION--REPORTING AND

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1 EVALUATION.--

2 A. The "science, technology, engineering and
3 mathematics plus" pilot project is created as an eight-year
4 study that provides:

5 (1) additional targeted professional
6 development for science, technology, engineering and
7 mathematics teachers, including project-based learning;

8 (2) programs and research projects for high
9 school students who wish to prepare for science, technology,
10 engineering and mathematics careers, including teaching; and

11 (3) expanded after-school programming and
12 tutoring for kindergarten through fourth grades in reading and
13 mathematics to prepare students for science, technology and
14 mathematics coursework and to foster an interest and potential
15 careers in those subjects.

16 B. The pilot project shall be administered by the
17 department, and the department shall partner with the New
18 Mexico institute of mining and technology, New Mexico highlands
19 university and western New Mexico university for pilot project
20 programming such as teacher professional development, teacher
21 and student research projects and data collection and analysis.
22 The department shall determine pilot project application
23 requirements and procedures and criteria for evaluating
24 applications. The department may contract with the partner
25 universities and others to develop, implement and evaluate the

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1 pilot project.

2 C. Students participating in science, technology,
3 engineering and mathematics plus shall be evaluated at the
4 beginning of and during their participation in the pilot
5 project and shall be measured in the next school year through
6 standardized assessments. The department shall establish
7 reporting and evaluation requirements, including teacher,
8 student and program measurement data. The department and the
9 universities shall provide interim and final reports to the
10 legislature and the governor on the efficacy of science,
11 technology, education and mathematics plus.

12 D. Using required eighth grade mathematics and
13 science assessments as baseline metrics, the department shall
14 follow participating high school student cohorts through high
15 school and five years post-high school to determine how many
16 participating students:

- 17 (1) achieved higher benchmarks than grade-
18 level cohorts in high school and higher education;
- 19 (2) graduated from high school with a diploma
20 of excellence or received a high school equivalency credential;
- 21 (3) placed higher in college-level
22 mathematics;
- 23 (4) graduated from college with at least a
24 bachelor's degree in a science, technology, engineering or
25 mathematics field;

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1 (5) applied to graduate school or were
2 employed in their degree field;

3 (6) chose to become or became public school
4 teachers in New Mexico; and

5 (7) who did not receive at least a bachelor's
6 degree:

7 (a) completed associate's degrees or
8 career technical certificates in a science-, technology- or
9 engineering-related field;

10 (b) found technical careers reflective
11 of educational opportunities provided through science,
12 technology, engineering and mathematics plus; and

13 (c) have been employed at higher rates
14 than nonparticipating students.

15 E. The partner universities shall provide programs
16 of targeted professional development to science, technology,
17 engineering and mathematics teachers by subject and grade level
18 through an application process developed in collaboration with
19 the department. Coursework shall focus on subject matter and
20 teaching methods that will result in a reduction of college-
21 level remedial education for participating students. A summer
22 research project component of professional development shall be
23 provided by separate application. A teacher accepted for a
24 summer research project may be paid a stipend not to exceed
25 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) as approved by the

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1 department.

2 F. Participating high school teachers may nominate
3 students who wish to prepare for science, technology,
4 engineering or mathematics careers to participate in the
5 partner universities' summer courses or research projects.

6 G. The first year of targeted after-school reading
7 and mathematics programming and tutoring for kindergarten
8 through fourth grade shall be conducted in the Socorro
9 consolidated school district, the Santa Fe public school
10 district and two other school districts in other regions of the
11 state, selected through an application process submitted to the
12 department. After a review of the pilot project's progress in
13 the initial school districts, the department may take
14 applications from other school districts to expand the
15 program."

16 SECTION 2. A new section of the Public School Code is
17 enacted to read:

18 "[NEW MATERIAL] FUND CREATED.--The "science, technology,
19 engineering and mathematics plus fund" is created as a
20 nonreverting fund in the state treasury. The fund consists of
21 appropriations, gifts, grants, donations and other money
22 credited to the fund. The fund shall be administered by the
23 department, and money in the fund is appropriated to the
24 department to carry out science, technology, engineering and
25 mathematics plus. Expenditures from the fund shall be on

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