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SENATE BILL 211

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

Michael Padilla

AN ACT

RELATING TO FINANCE; CREATING THE SCIENCE EDUCATION PROMOTION
FUND; REQUIRING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE
GRANTS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SCIENCE EDUCATION PROMOTION
FUND--CREATED--ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT--GRANTS TO
INSTITUTIONS.--

A. As used in this section:

(1) "fund" means the science education
promotion fund;

(2) "institution" means:

(a) a state educational institution
provided pursuant to Article 12, Section 11 of the constitution
of New Mexico; and

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1 (b) a public elementary, middle, junior
2 high or high school; and

3 (3) "strategic plan" means a five-year plan
4 proposed by an institution to increase the institution's
5 educational curriculum, degree offerings at the institution or
6 graduates from the institution in any of the following fields:

7 (a) aerospace;

8 (b) bioscience;

9 (c) cybersecurity;

10 (d) renewable energy;

11 (e) intelligent manufacturing; and

12 (f) agriculture.

13 B. The "science education promotion fund" is
14 created in the state treasury. The fund consists of
15 appropriations, gifts, grants, donations and income from
16 investment of the fund. Money in the fund at the end of a
17 fiscal year shall not revert to any other fund. The fund shall
18 be administered by the economic development department, and
19 money in the fund is appropriated to the economic development
20 department to make grants to institutions to develop and carry
21 out a strategic plan.

22 C. Money in the fund shall be disbursed on warrants
23 signed by the secretary of finance and administration pursuant
24 to vouchers signed by the secretary of economic development or
25 the secretary's authorized representative.

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1 D. Institutions may apply for grants to develop and
2 carry out a strategic plan in a form and manner determined by
3 the economic development department. The economic development
4 department shall promulgate rules as necessary to implement
5 this section, including to:

- 6 (1) develop a form for applications for
7 grants;
- 8 (2) approve grant applications;
- 9 (3) provide additional grants to institutions
10 that demonstrate fulfillment of the institution's strategic
11 plan; and
- 12 (4) oversee the use of grant funding,
13 including developing metrics to determine the success of
14 institutions in implementing the institution's strategic plan.

15 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**--One million dollars
16 (\$1,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
17 science education promotion fund for expenditure in fiscal year
18 2025 and subsequent fiscal years to carry out the purposes of
19 the science education promotion fund. Any unexpended or
20 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year
21 shall not revert to the general fund.