SENATE BILL 35

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

INTRODUCED BY

CYNTHIA NAVA

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; ENACTING THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

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]  SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the "Professional Development Act"."

Section 2.  A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL]  PURPOSE OF ACT.--It is the purpose of the Professional Development Act to:

A.  establish a framework for professional development within the department of education to facilitate statewide planning and adoption of professional development programs in school districts to ensure that New Mexico schools have a quality work force;

B.  provide school personnel with a variety of professional development opportunities and ongoing support to ensure integration of effective teaching strategies, learning technologies and utilization of resources in the educational process to enhance student

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learning and performance; and

C.  establish a funding mechanism that will support the development of an

effective school personnel work force for the benefit of all learners in New Mexico."

Section 3.  A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL]  STATE BOARD DUTIES--PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PLANS.--The state board shall:

A.  administer the provisions of the Professional Development Act;

B.  develop and adopt, in cooperation with local school districts and their

communities, a professional development framework with criteria for schools and districts to

use in creating plans for professional development consistent with school, district, state and

national goals that will enhance achievement and performance of students;

C.  assist schools and school districts to develop a comprehensive plan based

on the common planning framework;

D.  develop and administer a process for the review and approval of local

school district professional development plans; and

E.  distribute funds to local school districts upon approval of the district's

professional development plan."

Section 4.  A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL]  LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS--PROFESSIONAL

DEVELOPMENT PLANS.--

A.  Each school district shall adopt and implement a professional development

plan for its local school board and all administrators, teachers and other personnel employed by

the district.  The plan shall be annually updated to ensure that the proposed plan is consistent

with national, state and school district goals and objectives.

B.  Each school district shall submit a proposed professional development plan
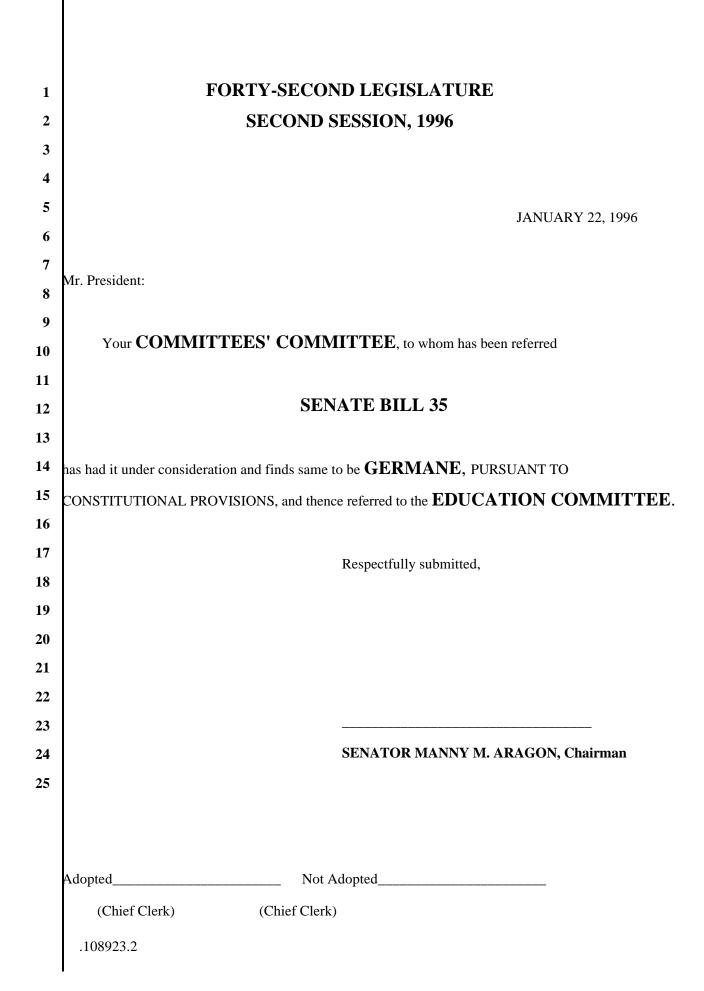
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1    for the district that meets state board professional development guidelines and standards.

2          C. Proposed school district plans shall be developed in collaboration with

3    certified and noncertified school personnel and shall show evidence of how the plans will

4    enhance student academic achievement and support the attainment of district, state and national

5    goals and shall include a parent and community involvement component and appropriate

6    evaluation procedures.

7          D. Proposed plans shall be designed to respond to local needs and may include

8    the following:

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10          (1)  current educational reform innovations that will assist in the

11    attainment of national and state educational goals and standards, such as site-based

12    management, cooperative learning, alternative assessment, learning technologies and

13    interdisciplinary and integrated curricular approaches;

14          (2)  knowledge and skills to assist teachers in meeting the individual

15    needs of students, the needs of limited language-proficient students and the complex challenges

16    encountered in the classroom;

17          (3)  knowledge and skills to assist in the use of technology in

18    education and technology applications that will enhance student learning and professional

19    development, such as technology-enhanced curriculum and instruction and administrative

20    resources and services for the public schools;

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22          (4)  professional development activities to assist teachers in preparing

23    for national certification through the national board for professional teaching standards;

24          (5)  career ladder programs for educational assistants and noncertified

25    school employees to improve job-related skills; and

          (6)  methods to successfully implement inclusion, transition and

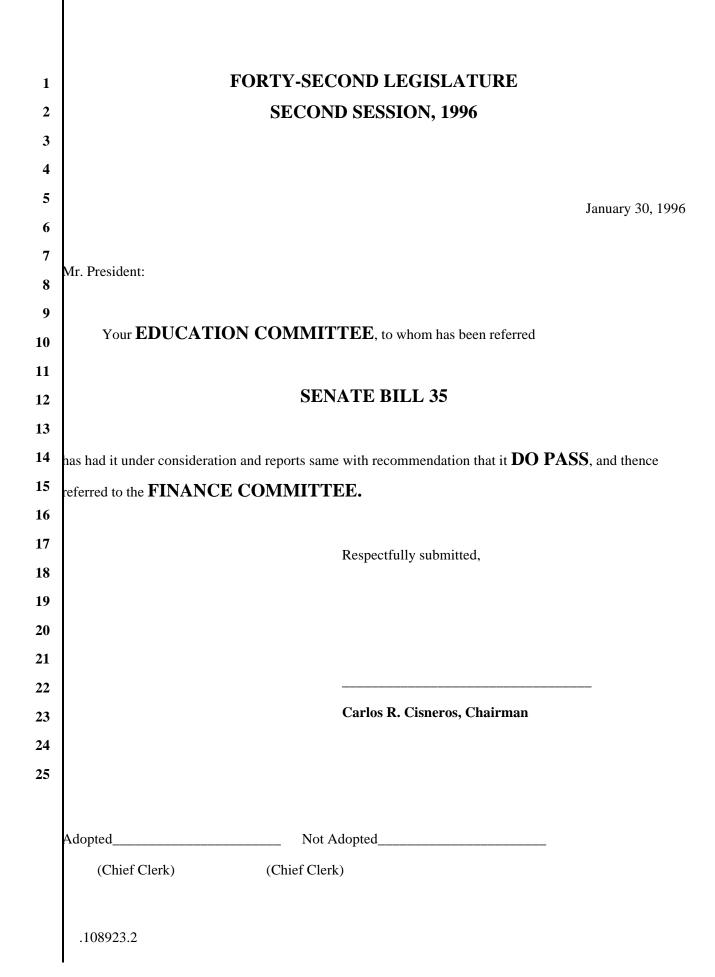unified systems to meet the local needs of all students with developmental disabilities."

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Section 5.  APPROPRIATIONS.--

A.  Four million four hundred fifty-five thousand dollars ($4,455,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the state department of public education for expenditure in fiscal year 1997 for the purpose of making distributions on a per unit basis to local school districts with approved professional development plans.  Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1997 shall not revert to the general fund.

B.  Four hundred forty-five thousand dollars ($445,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the state department of public education for expenditure in fiscal year 1997 for the purpose of making an equal distribution to each local school district to design a professional development plan.  Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1997 shall revert to the general fund.

Section 6.  EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 1996.

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**FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND SESSION, 1996**

JANUARY 22, 1996

Mr. President:

Your **COMMITTEES' COMMITTEE**, to whom has been referred

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has had it under consideration and finds same to be **GERMANE**, PURSUANT TO

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS, and thence referred to the **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**.

Respectfully submitted,

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**SENATOR MANNY M. ARAGON, Chairman**

Adopted_____     Not Adopted_____

    (Chief Clerk)         (Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

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# FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
## SECOND SESSION, 1996

January 30, 1996

Mr. President:

Your **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**, to whom has been referred

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has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation that it **DO PASS**, and thence referred to the **FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

Respectfully submitted,

_____

**Carlos R. Cisneros, Chairman**

Adopted_____    Not Adopted_____

(Chief Clerk)                    (Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

The roll call vote was _5_ For _1_ Against

Yes:    5

No:        Carraro

Excused:    Benavides, Duran, Lyons, Scott

Absent:    None

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