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AN ACT
RELATING TO OUTDOOR RECREATION; TRANSFERRING ADMINISTRATION
OF THE OUTDOOR EQUITY GRANT PROGRAM AND FUND FROM THE NEW
MEXICO YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS COMMISSION TO THE NEW MEXICO
OUTDOOR RECREATION DIVISION OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT; AMENDING AND RECOMPILING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA
1978.

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

SECTION 1. Section 9-5B-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1992,
Chapter 91, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"9-5B-6. COMMISSION--POWERS AND DUTIES.--

A. The commission may:

(1) accept gifts, devises, grants and
donations from others to carry out the provisions of the New
Mexico Youth Conservation Corps Act;

(2) request assistance and staff support
from the department;

(3) employ such personnel as necessary to
carry out the provisions of the New Mexico Youth Conservation
Corps Act;

(4) delegate responsibility for the
administration and implementation of conservation projects,
corps members' employment and supervision, project
coordination and other program matters;

1 (5) establish work camps and long-term
2 residential facilities to house corps members and their
3 supervisors; and

4 (6) contact potential sponsors and funding
5 sources for support.

6 B. The commission shall:

7 (1) adopt rules that are necessary for the
8 proper administration of the New Mexico Youth Conservation
9 Corps Act;

10 (2) administer and enforce the provisions of
11 the New Mexico Youth Conservation Corps Act and rules adopted
12 pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this subsection;

13 (3) develop and approve corps work projects,
14 activities and contracts with project sponsors;

15 (4) establish standards, procedures and
16 policies for selecting, hiring, providing compensation for
17 and other personnel matters involving corps members and other
18 personnel;

19 (5) foster partnerships and cooperation
20 between the corps and New Mexico's secondary and post-
21 secondary schools to assist corps members in obtaining
22 education and job training; and

23 (6) hire a program manager, who shall be the
24 administrative officer of the corps."

25 SECTION 2. Section 9-15-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1983,

1 Chapter 297, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

2 "9-15-1. SHORT TITLE.--Sections 9-15-1 through 9-15-36
3 NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Economic Development
4 Department Act"."

5 SECTION 3. Section 9-15-14.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
6 2019, Chapter 117, Section 2) is amended to read:

7 "9-15-14.1. NEW MEXICO OUTDOOR RECREATION DIVISION--
8 DUTIES--DEFINITIONS.--

9 A. The New Mexico outdoor recreation division of
10 the department shall:

11 (1) increase outdoor recreation-based
12 economic development, tourism and ecotourism in the state;

13 (2) recruit out-of-state-based outdoor
14 recreation businesses to locate in New Mexico;

15 (3) promote stewardship and preservation of
16 New Mexico's unique environment and cultural assets;

17 (4) promote education about and use of
18 outdoor recreation assets to enhance public health; and

19 (5) administer the outdoor equity grant
20 program.

21 B. The department, the tourism department, the
22 state land office, the Rio Grande trail commission, the state
23 parks division of the energy, minerals and natural resources
24 department, the department of game and fish, the cultural
25 affairs department, the Indian affairs department, the

1 department of health and the department of transportation
2 shall work in conjunction with the New Mexico outdoor
3 recreation division to support the division's duties as they
4 relate to the purposes of the respective departments and
5 agencies.

6 C. For the purposes of administering functions of
7 the New Mexico outdoor recreation division:

8 (1) "ecotourism" means a form of tourism
9 that involves visiting areas of ecological interest and is
10 intended as a low-impact and often small-scale alternative to
11 standard commercial tourism; and

12 (2) "outdoor recreation" means a
13 recreational activity that occurs outdoors in a natural
14 environment, including the use of trails, the natural
15 landscape, water or snow resources or other natural resources
16 in the activity."

17 SECTION 4. Section 9-5B-10.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
18 2019, Chapter 117, Section 7) is recompiled as part of the
19 Economic Development Department Act and is amended to read:

20 "OUTDOOR EQUITY GRANT PROGRAM--CREATED--ADMINISTRATION--
21 GRANT CRITERIA.--

22 A. The "outdoor equity grant program" is created
23 in the department to be administered by the New Mexico
24 outdoor recreation division of the department.

25 B. Each fiscal year, competitive grants shall be

1 awarded to applicants for the sole purpose of funding outdoor
2 recreation programs, in whole or in part, for youth up to the
3 age of eighteen.

4 C. Political subdivisions of the state, Indian
5 nations, tribes and pueblos and nonprofit organizations may
6 apply for outdoor equity grants.

7 D. Annually, the New Mexico outdoor recreation
8 division shall establish a minimum and maximum number of
9 grants available based on the funding appropriated to the
10 outdoor equity grant program fund for that fiscal year.

11 E. The New Mexico outdoor recreation division
12 shall award grants to applicants through a competitive
13 process and based upon the following minimum criteria:

14 (1) at least forty percent of the population
15 served by the applicant are low-income youth up to the age of
16 eighteen;

17 (2) the applicant has a well-developed,
18 written plan to engage low-income youth in outdoor recreation
19 activities; and

20 (3) the applicant has an educational plan to
21 educate youth about climate and the environment as part of
22 its outdoor recreation program.

23 F. The New Mexico outdoor recreation division
24 shall establish grant reporting requirements that meet the
25 general purpose of this section."

1 SECTION 5. Section 9-5B-10.2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
2 2019, Chapter 117, Section 8) is recompiled as part of the
3 Economic Development Department Act and is amended to read:

4 "OUTDOOR EQUITY GRANT PROGRAM FUND--CREATED.--

5 A. The "outdoor equity grant program fund" is
6 created in the state treasury. All appropriations, gifts,
7 devises, grants and donations received shall be deposited in
8 the fund. Money in the fund is appropriated to the
9 department for the New Mexico outdoor recreation division to
10 carry out the outdoor equity grant program. Any money
11 appropriated to the fund or accruing to it through gifts,
12 grants, bequests or interest shall remain in the fund. Money
13 in the fund shall not revert at the end of a fiscal year.

14 B. The fund shall be administered by the
15 department. Disbursements from the fund shall be made only
16 upon warrant drawn by the secretary of finance and
17 administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the secretary
18 of economic development or the secretary's designee for the
19 purpose of carrying out the outdoor equity grant program."

20 SECTION 6. TEMPORARY PROVISION--TRANSFER OF
21 APPROPRIATIONS, RECORDS AND CONTRACTS TO THE NEW MEXICO
22 OUTDOOR RECREATION DIVISION OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
23 DEPARTMENT.--On the effective date of this act:

24 A. all functions, appropriations, money, records
25 and files of the New Mexico youth conservation corps

1 commission relating to the outdoor equity grant program shall
2 be transferred to the New Mexico outdoor recreation division
3 of the economic development department;

4 B. all contractual obligations of the New Mexico
5 youth conservation corps commission relating to the outdoor
6 equity grant program shall be binding on the New Mexico
7 outdoor recreation division; and

8 C. the rules, orders and decisions of the New
9 Mexico youth conservation corps commission relating to the
10 outdoor equity grant program shall remain in effect until
11 repealed or amended. _____

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