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SENATE BILL 169

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Gerald Ortiz y Pino

AN ACT

RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH; PROVIDING FOR A STATEWIDE
RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SERVICE APPRENTICESHIPS THROUGH NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY
TO SERVE MEDICALLY INDIGENT POPULATIONS; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. ~~[NEW MATERIAL]~~ RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT--NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY--BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
SERVICE APPRENTICESHIPS.--

A. By October 1, 2016, the board of regents of New
Mexico highlands university shall establish a statewide
research and demonstration project to provide behavioral health
services to medically indigent individuals through behavioral
health service apprenticeships.

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1 B. The board of regents of New Mexico highlands
2 university shall contract with a behavioral health association
3 experienced in behavioral health workforce development to offer
4 statewide behavioral health service apprenticeships to
5 individuals from diverse populations that are representative of
6 the state's culture and linguistic diversity and that are
7 under-represented in the behavioral health workforce.

8 C. Representatives of New Mexico highlands
9 university and the contractor hired pursuant to Subsection B of
10 this section shall report the findings and recommendations for
11 continuation and expansion of the behavioral health service
12 apprenticeship program by November 1, 2017 to the legislative
13 health and human services committee.

14 D. As used in this section, "medically indigent
15 individual" means an individual who has a household income
16 below two hundred percent of the federal poverty level and who
17 is not covered by medicaid, medicare or other third party
18 health care coverage.

19 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**--Five hundred thousand dollars
20 (\$500,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the board
21 of regents of New Mexico highlands university for expenditure
22 in fiscal years 2017 and 2018 to fund the administration and
23 implementation of and the reporting required pursuant to the
24 behavioral health service apprenticeship research and
25 demonstration project established under Section 1 of this act.

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1 Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
2 fiscal year 2018 shall revert to the general fund.

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