

1 SENATE BILL 214

2 **50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Mary Jane M. Garcia

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO CHILDREN; ALLOWING A CHILD WHO HAS BEEN IN FOSTER
12 CARE TO DELAY LEAVING THE CARE OF THE STATE UNTIL THE CHILD
13 RECEIVES A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

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

16 SECTION 1. OPTION TO REMAIN IN THE CARE OF THE
17 STATE.--The children, youth and families department shall
18 notify a child who is in foster care and is attending high
19 school at the age of seventeen of the option to remain in the
20 care of the state after the child attains the age of eighteen
21 until the child graduates from high school. When a child who
22 is in foster care and is attending high school elects to remain
23 in the care of the state after attaining the age of eighteen,
24 the department shall provide services, housing, education and
25 medical care to the same degree that it did prior to the

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1 child's eighteenth birthday and until the child receives a high
2 school diploma or until the child reaches the age of twenty-
3 one, whichever comes first.

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