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AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; CONFORMING MULTIPLE VARYING  
TERMS IN STATUTE TO THE TERM "HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY  
CREDENTIAL"; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Section 22-2-8.8 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1999,  
Chapter 193, Section 1) is amended to read:

"22-2-8.8. HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY CREDENTIAL.--The  
department shall issue a high school equivalency credential  
to any candidate who is at least sixteen years of age and who  
has successfully completed the high school equivalency  
tests."

SECTION 2. TEMPORARY PROVISION--STATUTORY REFERENCES.--

A. All references in law to a "general education  
diploma", a "general equivalency diploma", a "general  
education development certificate", a "certificate of general  
equivalency", a "graduate equivalent diploma", a "GED  
certificate", a "high school equivalency diploma", a  
"certificate of equivalency" and an "equivalency diploma"  
shall be deemed to be references to a "high school  
equivalency credential".

B. All references in law to a "high school diploma  
or equivalent" shall be deemed to be references to a "high  
school diploma or high school equivalency credential".

C. All references in law to a "high school  
equivalency education" shall be deemed to be references to a  
"high school equivalency credential education".

D. All references in law to a "general educational  
development test" shall be deemed to be references to a "high

1 school equivalency credential test".

2 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public  
3 peace, health and safety that this act take effect  
4 immediately. \_\_\_\_\_

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