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AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; CREATING THE INTERSTATE DISTANCE EDUCATION ACT; AUTHORIZING THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO CONDUCT THE INTERSTATE DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM; EXEMPTING FROM THE OUT-OF-STATE PROPRIETARY SCHOOL ACT COURSES PROVIDED UNDER THE INTERSTATE DISTANCE EDUCATION ACT; MAKING A TECHNICAL CORRECTION IN SECTION 21-1-26.1 NMSA 1978 (BEING LAWS 1980, CHAPTER 145, SECTION 2, AS AMENDED).

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

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"SHORT TITLE. -- Sections 1 through 6 of this act may be cited as the "Interstate Distance Education Act"."

SECTION 2. A new section of Chapter 21 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Interstate Distance Education Act:

A. "accreditation" means the status of public recognition that an accrediting agency recognized by the United States department of education pursuant to Title 4 of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965 grants to an institution or educational program that meets the department's established requirements;

B. "complaint" means a formal written assertion that a provision of an agreement pursuant to Subsection B of

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