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HOUSE MEMORIAL 93

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

INTRODUCED BY

Jason C. Harper

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE A TASK  
FORCE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A YEAR-ROUND  
LEGISLATIVE LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, since 1996, more than ninety thousand students  
from across the state have attended New Mexico public colleges,  
universities and technical colleges with the help of  
legislative lottery scholarships; and

WHEREAS, the legislative lottery scholarship program  
promotes the effective use of funding toward the pursuit of  
higher education; and

WHEREAS, every dollar spent on lottery tickets benefits  
New Mexico's future and opens doors to new generations of New  
Mexicans to obtain a college education that might otherwise not  
have been possible; and

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1           WHEREAS, a legislative lottery scholarship pays a portion  
2 of tuition, up to an undergraduate degree, for students who  
3 have obtained a New Mexico diploma of excellence or for high  
4 school equivalency credential recipients who immediately attend  
5 a New Mexico public college or university; and

6           WHEREAS, current legislative lottery scholarships are  
7 granted for a period of one semester, subject to revocation for  
8 failure to maintain eligibility, and may be renewed until the  
9 award recipient has received seven semesters of scholarship  
10 awards at a four-year institution, or until the student  
11 graduates with a bachelor's degree from an eligible  
12 institution, whichever comes first; and

13           WHEREAS, a student attending a community college is  
14 eligible for three semesters of scholarship awards; and

15           WHEREAS, a year-round legislative lottery scholarship  
16 would provide funding for summer courses, which would allow  
17 students to graduate sooner;

18           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary  
20 of higher education be requested to convene a task force to  
21 study the feasibility of implementing a year-round legislative  
22 lottery scholarship program; and

23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
24 compile reports of collected data on the possible effect of a  
25 year-round legislative lottery scholarship program on the

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1 provision of additional opportunities for students pursuing  
2 higher education in New Mexico; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be chaired by  
4 the secretary of higher education; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
6 provide a report and present its findings and recommendations  
7 on the feasibility of implementing a year-round legislative  
8 lottery scholarship program to the appropriate interim  
9 committee by November 1, 2015; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
11 transmitted to the secretary of higher education.