

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
2000**

INTRODUCED BY
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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO EXAMINE THE LOCAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH EXPANDING THE
INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE INDEX IN THE
PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA.

WHEREAS, the public school funding formula is designed
for the purpose of equitably distributing public funds to all
local school districts, regardless of the wealth of the
district; and

WHEREAS, the funding formula is composed of factors
reflecting the costs of educating children with varying
characteristics and needs in certain programs; and

WHEREAS, one component of the formula, the instructional
staff training and experience index, provides increased
incremental funding based on the training and educational
expertise of instructors in the local school districts; and

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1 WHEREAS, the instructional staff training and experience
2 index was originally devised to encourage teachers to
3 continue their education in order to improve their
4 instructional abilities; and

5 WHEREAS, the instructional staff training and experience
6 index is one component of the public school funding formula
7 that encourages teachers to become better qualified and
8 therefore improve student performance; and

9 WHEREAS, the instructional staff training and experience
10 index, as it currently reads, in a linear progression does
11 not encourage a teacher to attain additional education
12 because credit hours earned after a teacher receives a
13 bachelor's degree and before earning a master's degree cannot
14 be counted under the index after the teacher earns a master's
15 degree; and WHEREAS, many local school districts and
16 classroom certified school instructors would benefit by
17 virtue of the calculation of the training and experience
18 component of the formula if, when determining the academic
19 classification, excess hours not included in any degree
20 requirements could be counted before and after a master's
21 degree is earned;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state board of education, in
24 cooperation with the legislative education study committee
25 and the legislative finance committee, be requested to
examine the local school district costs associated with
expanding the training and experience factor in the public

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1 school funding formula so that when determining the academic
2 classification, excess hours not included in any degree
3 requirements can be counted before and after a master's
4 degree is earned; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the chairman of the legislative education
7 study committee, the chairman of the legislative finance
8 committee, the state board of education and the
9 superintendent of public instruction.

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