

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 29

2 **47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO WORK TO CREATE A
12 CULTURE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT AND STATEWIDE THAT EMBRACES A
13 KINDERGARTEN-THROUGH-COLLEGE APPROACH TO PUBLIC EDUCATION AND
14 TO SHIFT THE FOCUS FROM GRADUATING STUDENTS FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO
15 GRADUATING STUDENTS FROM POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL
16 INSTITUTIONS.

17
18 WHEREAS, post-secondary education is no longer a goal for
19 only an elite group of students who will attend a college or
20 university; and

21 WHEREAS, qualifying for most jobs in today's economy
22 requires some type of training at the post-secondary level; and

23 WHEREAS, currently almost all students who graduate from
24 high school eventually attend or participate in some form of
25 post-secondary education; and

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1 WHEREAS, many disconnects currently exist that complicate
2 student transitions between high schools and post-secondary
3 educational institutions; and

4 WHEREAS, these disconnects contribute to inequalities
5 among those who are able to attend and graduate from post-
6 secondary educational institutions; and

7 WHEREAS, a logical continuum of services that extends
8 through all levels of the education system, including
9 elementary, secondary and post-secondary, would facilitate the
10 transition from one level to the next; and

11 WHEREAS, creating stronger connections between
12 kindergarten-through-grade-twelve and post-secondary systems
13 can increase students' participation in, and readiness for,
14 post-secondary education;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be
17 requested to work to create a culture in the department and
18 statewide that embraces a kindergarten-through-college approach
19 to public education rather than the current kindergarten-
20 through-grade-twelve approach, thereby shifting the focus from
21 graduating students from high school to graduating students
22 from post-secondary educational institutions; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
24 department work to create incentives, opportunities and venues
25 for kindergarten-through-grade-twelve and post-secondary

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1 education collaboration; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
3 department be requested to report yearly to the legislative
4 education study committee on the progress of its efforts to
5 establish and support kindergarten-through-college connections;
6 and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the public education department and the
9 legislative education study committee.