

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE CHILDREN,  
3 YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT TO STUDY THE BENEFITS OF  
4 IMPLEMENTING A SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM WITH ACADEMIC CREDIT.

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6 WHEREAS, service learning has been defined as an  
7 instructional method that lends relevance to academic content  
8 by engaging students in meaningful service that is linked to  
9 curriculum; and

10 WHEREAS, the benefits of service learning include a  
11 positive impact on the personal development of public school  
12 students, reduced risk of potentially negative behavior,  
13 enhanced civic responsibility and citizenship skills, better  
14 attendance and increased engagement in academic studies; and

15 WHEREAS, service learning activities may occur during or  
16 after school, and there may be benefits to allowing students  
17 in the eighth grade to begin service learning before their  
18 freshman year; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico and New Mexico high school students  
20 might realize some of the benefits of service learning  
21 through the introduction of a structured service learning  
22 program with academic credit;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
24 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department and  
25 the children, youth and families department be requested to

1 study the benefits of implementing a service learning program  
2 that grants academic credit to high school students and  
3 students in the eighth grade entering high school; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the departments be requested  
5 to report their findings and recommendations, if any, to the  
6 legislative education study committee prior to the second  
7 session of the forty-eighth legislature; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copies of this memorial be  
9 transmitted to the secretaries of public education and  
10 children, youth and families and the director of the  
11 legislative education study committee. \_\_\_\_\_

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