

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 22

2 **49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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8 FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

9  
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE OFFICE OF  
12 EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY TO STUDY THE INTERNSHIP TEACHING  
13 LICENSE.

14  
15 WHEREAS, the state is committed to engaging highly  
16 qualified teachers in the public education of all students; and

17 WHEREAS, United States department of education regulations  
18 allow persons who have not yet obtained full state licensure to  
19 be considered highly qualified teachers if they are  
20 participating in an alternative teacher licensure program that  
21 provides quality professional development and in a program of  
22 supervision such as a teacher mentoring program; and

23 WHEREAS, New Mexico law provides for an alternative route  
24 to a level one teaching license; and

25 WHEREAS, state law also provides for a teacher mentorship

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1 program to provide beginning teachers with an effective  
2 transition into the teaching field, to build on their initial  
3 preparation and to ensure their success in teaching; to improve  
4 the achievement of students; and to retain capable teachers in  
5 the classroom and to remove teachers who show little promise of  
6 success; and

7 WHEREAS, public education department rules establish,  
8 through an alternative licensure route, an internship teaching  
9 license for persons who seek to become teachers but do not yet  
10 meet the requirements for an alternative level one teaching  
11 license as prescribed in state law; and

12 WHEREAS, state law does not define or provide for an  
13 internship license; and

14 WHEREAS, it is unknown whether all internship licensed  
15 teachers are participating in such professional development and  
16 supervision or mentorship as required in federal regulations;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the public education department has reported a  
19 total of six hundred eighty-four internship licensed teachers  
20 statewide in school year 2008-2009; and

21 WHEREAS, the sources of funding for professional  
22 development and supervision or mentorship of internship  
23 licensed teachers are uncertain;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
25 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department and

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1 the office of education accountability of the department of  
2 finance and administration be requested to study the issues of  
3 internship licensure, including:

4 A. examining whether internship licensed teachers:

5 (1) receive sustained, intensive and  
6 classroom-focused professional development before and while  
7 teaching; and

8 (2) participate in a program of intensive  
9 supervision or a teacher mentoring program; and

10 B. determining the number of internship licensed  
11 teachers receiving mentorship services in school districts and  
12 state-chartered charter schools in school year 2009-2010 and  
13 the sources of funding for those mentorship services; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and  
15 recommendations of the study be presented to the legislative  
16 education study committee prior to the first session of the  
17 fiftieth legislature; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
19 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the director  
20 of the office of education accountability and the director of  
21 the legislative education study committee.

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