

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: SJM 24

50th Legislature, 1st Session, 2011

Tracking Number: .185324.1

Short Title: Tribal Language Survival Support

Sponsor(s): Senator John Pinto

Analyst: Ally Hudson

Date: March 11, 2011

Bill Summary:

SJM 24 resolves that the Legislature:

- recognize the unique status of New Mexico's Native American languages and the protection and preservation of these languages as a representation of New Mexico's commitment to its multicultural and multilingual heritage;
- acknowledge the valuable and significant role that New Mexico's Native American languages play in the survival of native communities and cultures;
- recognize that New Mexico's native languages are important for improving the academic success of Native American children by providing opportunities for them to embrace their tribal language heritage, thus enhancing their educational experience and achievement;
- support these efforts by ensuring that resources attached to the *Indian Education Act* be focused on adequate support of tribally controlled language initiatives; and
- recognize that establishing and sustaining a strong infrastructure for language development and maintenance initiatives for Native Americans, from birth through adulthood, requires technical assistance and ongoing training support provided through the American Indian Language Policy Research and Teacher Training Center.

Fiscal Impact:

Legislative memorials do not contain appropriations.

Related Bills:

HJM 31 *Legis Support for Tribal Language Survival* (Identical)