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A JOINT MEMORIAL

SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF THE DINE COLLEGE ACT OF 2015 INTO
FEDERAL LAW.

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico and the Navajo Nation
maintain a government-to-government relationship, and the
Navajo people residing in the state are citizens of both
New Mexico and the Navajo Nation; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, the Navajo Nation established Navajo
community college, which later became Diné college, to
provide access to higher education to the Navajo people; and

WHEREAS, Diné college's New Mexico flagship campus is
located in Shiprock, and there is a community campus center
in Crownpoint; and

WHEREAS, Diné college has dual credit agreements with
school districts and schools in New Mexico, including the
Central consolidated school district, Gallup-McKinley county
school district, Magdalena municipal school district, Navajo
preparatory school, Shiprock alternative school, inc.,
Wingate high school and the Alamo Navajo community school;
and

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico provides support to
Diné college through its higher education department by way
of higher education capital outlay projects, the tribal
college dual credit funding program and high school

1 equivalency credential program grants; and

2 WHEREAS, the United States congress passed the Navajo
3 Community College Act of 1971, the Navajo Community College
4 Assistance Act of 1978 and the Navajo Nation Higher Education
5 Act of 2008, which collectively provide for maintenance,
6 operation and construction funding for Diné college; and

7 WHEREAS, Representative Ann Kirkpatrick from Arizona
8 introduced the Dine College Act of 2015 "to fulfill the
9 United States Government's trust responsibility to serve the
10 higher education needs of the Navajo people and to clarify,
11 unify, and modernize prior Diné College legislation", and
12 Diné college has asked Senator Jeff Flake from Arizona to
13 introduce a senate companion bill;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state of New Mexico stand in
16 support of the passage of the Dine College Act of 2015 and
17 urge the New Mexico congressional delegation to work to
18 ensure its passage into federal law; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the secretary of higher education, the
21 governor, the New Mexico congressional delegation, the speaker
22 of the United States house of representatives, the president
23 of the United States senate and the president of the United
24 States. _____