HOUSE MEMORIAL 2

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

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FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE TO
ASSEMBLE AN EDUCATION DATA GOVERNANCE AND ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE WORKING GROUP TO STUDY AND RECOMMEND A STRUCTURE
FOR IMPROVED STATEWIDE EDUCATION DATA GOVERNANCE AND POLICIES
TO ADDRESS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

WHEREAS, access to high-quality data is important for
stakeholders throughout New Mexico's education community,
including families who need data to answer questions about
students' journeys through school and into the workforce,
educators who need information that allows them to quickly
target interventions where they are needed and policymakers who
need data to evaluate whether investments are improving
educational outcomes for students statewide; and

WHEREAS, strong program evaluations rely on a foundation

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1   of high-quality data that is accurate, complete, consistent,

2   granular and timely; and

3   WHEREAS, recent legislative education study committee

4   staff analysis of educational programs has met complications

5   due to poor-quality data, resulting in ambiguity in the

6   analysis of program effectiveness; and

7   WHEREAS, data quality issues occur when schools and school

8   districts have difficulties reporting reliable information or

9   when data systems are created in administrative silos; and

10   WHEREAS, many state agencies, including the public

11   education department, the higher education department, the

12   early childhood education and care department, the children,

13   youth and families department, the workforce solutions

14   department, the vocational rehabilitation division of the

15   public education department and the department of information

16   technology, are independently working on data systems and

17   improvements, but a lack of collaboration and coordination may

18   perpetuate issues with data quality; and

19   WHEREAS, data quality can be improved through data

20   governance, a set of rules, policies and standards designed to

21   promote greater organizational collaboration, higher quality

22   data and improved usability of data; and

23   WHEREAS, artificial intelligence is a powerful new

24   technology that can create new opportunities for students,

25   educators and researchers to expand and deepen learning, but

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1   also creates new uncertainties about what the definition of

2   "data" might include; and

3   WHEREAS, some artificial intelligence systems may be given

4   extensive access to educational datasets, personally

5   identifiable information and culturally sensitive data,

6   creating novel conditions for data governance policies,

7   especially regarding the data of Indian nations, tribes and

8   pueblos in the state; and

9   WHEREAS, the advent of artificial intelligence warrants a

10 set of rules and policies governing its use in educational

11 institutions, especially to ensure that artificial intelligence

12 tools are used effectively and responsibly, are accessible to

13 all communities across New Mexico, are tailored to New Mexico's

14 cultural and educational contexts and are not used as a

15 substitute for meaningful human connection; and

16   WHEREAS, many states have established a statutory

17 structure for data governance, allowing state agencies and data

18 users to collaborate on effective policies to improve data

19 quality, particularly to ensure that statewide longitudinal

20 data systems provide actionable, accessible and timely

21 information; and

22   WHEREAS, the RISE NM statewide longitudinal data system is

23 under construction at the higher education department; and

24   WHEREAS, state agencies that contribute data to the RISE

25 NM system have a variety of mechanisms and internal processes

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1   to manage data transfers, but there is not a central mechanism

2   to enforce data quality; and

3   WHEREAS, the legislature has appropriated funds to the

4   institute for complex additive systems analysis at the New

5   Mexico institute of mining and technology to conduct an

6   assessment of data governance policies and assets at various

7   state agencies; and

8   WHEREAS, to ensure that data is high quality, New Mexico

9   would benefit from a coordinated approach to data governance

10   among the many agencies working on data systems that honors the

11   progress state agencies are making on data systems while still

12   working to improve data quality; and

13   WHEREAS, state agencies should collaborate and communicate

14   in the creation of a statewide education governance framework

15   given their deep knowledge of their data systems, as well as to

16   foster an understanding of the needs of stakeholders that rely

17   on timely access to data;

18   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

19   REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative

20   education study committee be requested to convene an education

21   data governance and artificial intelligence working group

22   throughout the 2025 legislative interim; and

23   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group consist of

24   representation from state agencies representing the agencies'

25   strategic vision along with technical experts overseeing work

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1   on the agencies' education data systems, including the public

2   education department, the higher education department, the

3   early childhood education and care department, the children,

4   youth and families department, the workforce solutions

5   department, the vocational rehabilitation division of the

6   public education department and the department of information

7   technology; and

8   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group include

9   additional membership representing members of the New Mexico

10   legislature; the legislative finance committee; the institute

11   for complex additive systems analysis at the New Mexico

12   institute of mining and technology; school district

13   superintendents; charter school head administrators; New Mexico

14   Indian nations, tribes and pueblos; nonprofit organizations

15   that focus on work directly related to data quality, research

16   and analysis; faculty of New Mexico institutions of higher

17   education responsible for analysis of New Mexico educational

18   programs; current educators; New Mexico students; and subject

19   matter experts on the topics of data governance and artificial

20   intelligence; and

21   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative education

22   study committee be requested to select working group members

23   that promote diversity in regard to race, ethnicity, language,

24   culture, geography and age; and

25   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be

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1   authorized to organize into smaller groups for the purposes of

2   deep, authentic discussion of various research topics; and

3   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be requested

4   to study the following topics:

5   A.   the current status of state education data

6   systems spanning early childhood education to the workforce and

7   potential improvements required for interoperability of data

8   systems;

9   B.   an evolved understanding of data present in

10   early childhood institutions, public schools and workforce data

11   systems, including the data that might interact with artificial

12   intelligence, and which types of data need to be managed in a

13   comprehensive manner;

14   C.   current and prospective policies to ensure that

15   data systems include accurate, complete and consistent

16   information;

17   D.   the unique needs of New Mexico stakeholders

18   regarding data access and data sovereignty;

19   E.   current and prospective policies to ensure that

20   datasets and reports are transparent and timely for data users;

21   F.   current and prospective policies to maintain

22   data privacy and security;

23   G.   the current uses of artificial intelligence by

24   students and educators;

25   H.   current and potential policies to guide the use

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of artificial intelligence in public schools, including

policies to promote access to artificial intelligence, protect

sensitive data, protect data sovereignty and maintain

meaningful human connection in classrooms; and

I. formal data governance structures to ensure

ongoing collaboration and coordination of data collection and

maintenance efforts in perpetuity, including the funds,

staffing and resources necessary to administer a formal data

governance structure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be requested

to make recommendations regarding a formal structure for data

governance, statewide education data governance policies and

policies governing the use of artificial intelligence in

education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group present its

recommendations to the legislative education study committee by

October 31, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

transmitted to the legislative education study committee for

distribution.

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