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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

KIP W. NICELY

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 4, SECTION 16 OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO REQUIRING A MINIMUM APPROPRIATION OF
NOT LESS THAN FIFTY PERCENT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE GENERAL
APPROPRIATION BILL AND MANDATORY TESTING.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Article 4, Section 16
of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"The subject of every bill shall be clearly expressed in
its title, and no bill embracing more than one subject shall be
passed except general appropriation bills and bills for the
codification or revision of the laws; but if any subject is
embraced in any act which is not expressed in its title, only so
much of the act as is not so expressed shall be void. General
appropriation bills shall embrace nothing but appropriations for

Underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

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[bracketed material] = delete

1 the expense of the executive, legislative and judiciary
2 departments, interest, sinking fund, payments on the public
3 debt, public schools and other expenses required by existing
4 laws; but if any such bill contain any other matter, only so
5 much thereof as is hereby forbidden to be placed therein shall
6 be void. Beginning January 1, 2003, no general appropriation
7 bill shall become law if the general fund appropriation for
8 public schools in that bill is less than fifty percent of the
9 total general fund appropriation therein for the executive,
10 legislative and judiciary departments; provided that, as a
11 condition for public school appropriations in the general
12 appropriation bill, the legislature shall enact appropriate laws
13 to provide annual mandatory standard performance testing of
14 public school students in all grades of public school with the
15 test results being made available to the legislature sixty days
16 prior to the commencement of the legislative session. All other
17 appropriations shall be made by separate bills. "

18 Section 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall
19 be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at
20 the next general election or at any special election prior to
21 that date which may be called for that purpose.

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