

# *Martinez Plaintiffs'* Presentation to the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee

August 28, 2020

Ernest I. Herrera

Staff Attorney, MALDEF

Counsel for *Martinez Plaintiffs*

## Bilingual and ELL Education

- Provide funding and monitoring that ensure that all ELL have access to adequate English acquisition services and bilingual programs, and that Latinx and Native American students have access to quality bilingual education
- Raise bilingual weight in State Equalization Guarantee
- Ensure that professional development for ELD and Bilingual programming reaches teachers

# Effective Teachers

- Provide funding that ensures that public school districts can afford the teachers that they need
- Preserve teachers' salary increases
- Address systemic causes of increased class sizes, including funding and class size waivers

## After School and Extended Learning Programs

- Provide appropriate funding for research-based, quality after-school and extended learning programs to at-risk and ELL students
- Implement K-5 Plus in a way that reaches at-risk students statewide (in all districts) or replace it

# Multicultural Education

- Provide additional guidance and support on districts' development of a culturally relevant curriculum and pedagogy to all students
- Sufficiently fund programs including, but not limited to, funding provided for under Bilingual Multicultural Education Act and Indian Education Act
- Implement training on anti-racism and restorative justice

# At-Risk Funding

- Include all economically disadvantaged students (those qualifying for free and reduced lunch) in the at-risk index
- Monitoring to ensure that dollars generated by at-risk students follow those students
- Funding of programs that provide additional supports to at-risk students so that all at-risk students can access those programs
- Do not back track on at-risk funding because of recession

# Instructional Materials

- Instructional materials should be available to all students, including in rural areas and areas serving Native Americans
- Instructional materials should reflect a culturally relevant curriculum

# Pre-K and Early Childhood Education

- Appropriate funding to ensure uniform access to full-day, quality Pre-K for all at-risk children
- Monitor qualifications of early childhood educators, including any quality discrepancies between PED and CYFD programs



# Hispanic Education Act

- Ensure that the State works with districts and Latinx community to implement a comprehensive plan for closing the achievement gap between Latinx students and their non-Latinx peers
- Ensure the provision of appropriate multicultural instructional materials and culturally relevant curriculum and pedagogy to Latinx students

# Indian Education Act

- Ensure that all Native American students receive a culturally relevant education

# Overall Public School Funding

- Provide appropriate overall funding to public schools to enable them to provide an adequate education to all at-risk students
- Require that money allocated for programs that help at-risk students is used for those programs
- Make sure that recession does not erase gains in school funding

# Students with Disabilities

- Sufficiently fund educational programs for students with disabilities
- Ensure monitoring of use of funds for special education
- Monitoring of IEPs
- Ensure that school discipline does not unjustly or negatively affect students with disabilities
- Monitoring of schools filling special education teacher and specialist vacancies

## Students with Disabilities (cont'd)

- Address lack of funding for:
  - Ancillary personnel
  - Professional development
- Determine the cost of providing adequate special education in New Mexico