

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,  
2000**

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND THE  
LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER  
INCORPORATING COST-OF-LIVING VARIABLES INTO THE STATE'S  
PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA FOR EQUALIZATION PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico is widely recognized as being a  
leader in attempting to equalize educational opportunities  
for all public education students through an equitable  
distribution of available funds sufficient to recruit and  
retain quality teachers; and

WHEREAS, the state continues to serve as a model for the  
nation with its regular maintenance and improvements to the  
equalization principle that is central to the funding  
formula; and

WHEREAS, some local school districts are experiencing  
serious difficulties recruiting and retaining high quality

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 teachers due to a combination of lower salary schedules and  
2 higher living costs than those found in many in-state and  
3 out-of-state school districts with whom they must compete to  
4 hire teachers;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public  
7 education and the legislative education study committee  
8 consider modification of the state's public school funding  
9 formula to incorporate cost-of-living variables to enable all  
10 school districts to hire the quality of teachers their  
11 students deserve; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of  
13 public education and the legislative education study  
14 committee study this situation and report their findings to  
15 the legislative finance committee and the governor no later  
16 than December 15, 2000; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to the superintendent of public instruction,  
19 legislative education study committee members, the director  
20 of the legislative finance committee and the governor.