

underscored material = new
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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 8
45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY
Ray Begaye

FOR THE EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO DEVELOP
AND STRENGTHEN ASSESSMENTS AND CURRICULA FOR NATIVE AMERICAN
BILINGUAL PROGRAMS AND TO STRENGTHEN LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR
NATIVE AMERICAN BILINGUAL TEACHERS.

WHEREAS, the legislature desires that students in the
state achieve multilingual proficiency by becoming proficient
in English and one other language; and

WHEREAS, the legislature desires that, along with other
languages, New Mexico students have the opportunity to become
proficient in Native American languages; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide students with the opportunity
to become proficient in Native American languages, assessments
and curricula for Native American bilingual programs need to be

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1 provided, as well as additional teachers certified to teach
2 Native American languages; and

3 WHEREAS, state department of public education rules do not
4 currently provide for assessments and curricula for Native
5 American bilingual programs; and

6 WHEREAS, because of a lack of training programs in New
7 Mexico and excessive costs associated with training out of
8 state, state department of public education licensure
9 requirements for teachers of bilingual programs do not
10 encourage teachers to become certified in Native American
11 bilingual programs;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public
14 education be requested to develop and strengthen assessments
15 and curricula for Native American bilingual programs within its
16 rules; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of public
18 education be requested to strengthen its Native American
19 licensure requirements and to encourage more teachers to become
20 licensed to teach Native American languages through training
21 programs in New Mexico or by assisting teachers in becoming
22 certified out of state; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the superintendent of public instruction.