

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 59

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 John C. Ryan

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE OFFICE OF
12 EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY AND THE STATE AUDITOR TO AUDIT THE
13 ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH OF THE
14 DISTRICT'S BUDGET GOES TO ADMINISTRATION AND IF THE DISTRICT IS
15 CLASSIFYING EXPENDITURES IN THE APPROPRIATE SUBFUNDS OR
16 FUNCTIONS OF THE NEW UNIFORM CHART OF ACCOUNTS.

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18 WHEREAS, with approximately ninety-four thousand six
19 hundred students, Albuquerque public schools is the largest
20 school district in the state and one of the largest in the
21 country; and

22 WHEREAS, the public school funding formula is based in
23 part on the assumption that large school districts can achieve
24 certain economies of scale; and

25 WHEREAS, according to national center for education

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1 statistics data, many districts of similar size and composition
2 are able to achieve economies of scale that allow them to spend
3 less on administrative costs; and

4 WHEREAS, Albuquerque public school district's general fund
5 net operational subfund expenditures by function reports
6 consistently show that the district is among the lowest for
7 expenditures for administrative functions in New Mexico; and

8 WHEREAS, the district has shown a difference of no more
9 than two-tenths of one percent in expenditure in the
10 administration subfund under the former chart of accounts for
11 the last ten years; and

12 WHEREAS, during that time, the district modified its
13 administrative structure to include four superintendents, all
14 of whom were receiving salaries of over one hundred thousand
15 dollars (\$100,000) plus benefits, the district did not show an
16 increase in expenditures in the administration subfund; and

17 WHEREAS, the other four operational subfunds also show
18 very little movement in the percent of their expenditures over
19 the same ten-year period; and

20 WHEREAS, the district reports would seem to indicate that
21 it is not now spending any more of its state equalization
22 guarantee distribution in the direct instruction subfund than
23 it did in 1996-1997;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
25 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative finance committee, the

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1 office of education accountability and the state auditor be
2 requested to audit Albuquerque public schools to determine how
3 much of the school district's budget actually goes to functions
4 2300, 2500, 2600 and 2900 as specified in the uniform chart of
5 accounts manual of procedures; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit determine if
7 Albuquerque public school district is reporting its
8 expenditures in the appropriate categories; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit team report its
10 findings and recommendations to the legislative finance
11 committee, the legislative education study committee and the
12 public education department by November 1, 2007.

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