

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WORK WITH THE
3 PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO REVIEW THE ADEQUACY AND
4 APPROPRIATENESS OF BRANCH AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE STATUTES.
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6 WHEREAS, New Mexico statutes relating to the
7 organization and operation of two-year post-secondary
8 institutions and programs have evolved in a haphazard manner
9 over many years; and

10 WHEREAS, these statutes include those for branch
11 community colleges in Chapter 21, Article 14 NMSA 1978, first
12 codified by the New Mexico legislature in 1957, under which
13 four branch community college campuses of New Mexico state
14 university, four campuses of the university of New Mexico and
15 two campuses of eastern New Mexico university currently
16 operate; and

17 WHEREAS, these statutes include the Community College
18 Act, enacted by the New Mexico legislature in 1963, under
19 which six locally governed community colleges currently
20 operate; and

21 WHEREAS, these statutes include the Technical and
22 Vocational Institute Act, enacted in 1965, under which the
23 central New Mexico community college currently operates; and

24 WHEREAS, these statutes include the Off-Campus
25 Instruction Act, enacted in 1982, under which no institutions

1 currently operate; and

2 WHEREAS, these statutes also include the College
3 District Tax Act, the Learning Center Act and the Workforce
4 Training Act, among others; and

5 WHEREAS, some provisions in these statutes may be
6 obsolete, duplicative or no longer relevant to current
7 practice; and

8 WHEREAS, there is a need to review and update these
9 statutes to assure the legislature that the legal framework
10 relating to two-year post-secondary institutions is adequate
11 to meet current and future requirements;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the higher education department, in
14 cooperation with the state's two-year post-secondary
15 institutions and the public education department, where
16 appropriate, be requested to conduct a thorough review of all
17 relevant New Mexico statutes for adequacy and appropriateness
18 and to develop recommendations for modification to be
19 presented to the second session of the forty-ninth
20 legislature.

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