

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 25

2 **49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Timothy M. Keller

5
6
7
8
9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO STUDY THE
12 GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF NEW MEXICO'S STATE EDUCATIONAL
13 INSTITUTIONS.

14
15 WHEREAS, the current governance structure of state
16 educational institutions, namely boards of regents, has been in
17 place since statehood; and

18 WHEREAS, there is a continuing debate across the country
19 on whether state-level boards or institutional boards are more
20 responsive to the needs of the state and its citizens; and

21 WHEREAS, the debate includes whether governance structures
22 should be more oriented to a business or corporate model or to
23 a collegial model and how educational institutions should be
24 held accountable to the public trust as well as to state
25 policymakers and citizens; and

.175575.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 WHEREAS, as the provision of higher education becomes
2 increasingly more complex and the internal and external
3 interrelationships of educational institutions become more
4 interdependent, it is time for the state to look at the
5 efficacy of the current governance structure and the utility of
6 having an overarching state board to ensure that taxpayers are
7 getting the best public post-secondary educational system;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the higher education department be
10 requested to study the issues of governance of the state's
11 public colleges and universities and to make recommendations to
12 the legislature; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include descriptions
14 and analyses of the governance structures in other states, with
15 a particular emphasis on those states that have statewide
16 boards of regents; whether governance board members should be
17 elected; the need for qualifications of governance board
18 members; the need for better-coordinated statewide post-
19 secondary educational planning and implementation; and the role
20 of the higher education department and the higher education
21 advisory board in any governance structure; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department report its
23 findings and recommendations to the appropriate interim
24 legislative committee by November 1, 2009; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

.175575.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

transmitted to the secretary of higher education.

- 3 -