

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

HOUSE MEMORIAL 69

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

Rhonda S. King

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO STUDY THE ALIGNMENT AMONG STATE ACADEMIC CONTENT STANDARDS, SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRICULA AND TEACHER PREPARATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, the state has developed rigorous academic content standards to ensure that all New Mexico elementary, middle or junior and high school students consistently receive a high-quality public education that prepares them for higher education or the workplace; and

WHEREAS, Section 22-13-1.6 NMSA 1978 provides that:

"A. Each school district shall align its curricula to meet the state standards for each grade level and subject area so that students who transfer between public schools within the school district receive the same educational

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 opportunity within the same grade or subject area.

2 B. Each school district's aligned grade level and
3 subject area curricula shall be in place as follows:

4 (1) for mathematics, by the 2008-2009 school
5 year; and

6 (2) for language arts and science, by the
7 2009-2010 school year.

8 C. Professional development relating to curricula
9 for classroom teachers and educational assistants shall be
10 aligned with state standards by each school district."; and

11 WHEREAS, proper alignment among academic content
12 standards, curricula and professional development is integral
13 to ensuring that investments of public resources in education
14 will lead students to academic success; and

15 WHEREAS, the state has signed a national memorandum of
16 agreement with the common core state standards initiative to
17 develop common standards for English, language arts and
18 mathematics for kindergarten through twelfth grade, which
19 initiative calls for fewer, clearer and higher academic
20 standards that are aligned with college and work expectations,
21 that are internationally benchmarked, that are rigorous and
22 that are research-based; and

23 WHEREAS, proper alignment of curricula between grades
24 helps ensure that students are adequately prepared to meet
25 state academic content standards at every grade; and

.181921.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 WHEREAS, preparing teachers with essential pedagogical
2 skills and a better understanding of New Mexico academic
3 content standards should enable more effective standards-based
4 instruction; and

5 WHEREAS, no comprehensive study has been conducted to
6 evaluate the alignment of school district curricula and
7 professional development to state academic content standards;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
9 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public
10 education department be requested to study the alignment of
11 school district curricula and professional development in
12 mathematics, language arts and science to state academic
13 content standards in those subject areas; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include a review and
15 recommendations of:

16 A. the extent to which district curricula are
17 aligned with New Mexico academic content standards and the
18 standards developed by the common core state standards
19 initiative;

20 B. whether local curricula are aligned to state
21 academic content standards between grades in such a way as to
22 ensure that students are adequately prepared at each grade
23 level to meet the state's academic expectations; and

24 C. the extent to which both teacher preparation
25 programs and professional development courses in New Mexico

.181921.1

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

1 provide sufficient knowledge of New Mexico's academic content
2 standards and teach effective instructional strategies for
3 students to meet those standards; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
5 department work with the office of education accountability, of
6 the department of finance and administration, and the
7 legislative education study committee to design the study; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
9 department present the results of the study and its
10 recommendations to the legislative education study committee by
11 December 2010; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the office of
14 education accountability and the director of the legislative
15 education study committee.

16 - 4 -