

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 14

2 **49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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8 FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THAT THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE PUBLIC
12 EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CONVENE A WORK GROUP TO DEVELOP A MASTER
13 PLAN FOR ACCELERATED LEARNING THAT WOULD OFFER HIGH SCHOOL
14 STUDENTS MULTIPLE OPTIONS FOR STUDY AT THE POST-SECONDARY
15 LEVEL.

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17 WHEREAS, the 2007 legislature enacted a statewide dual
18 credit program to allow public high school students who meet
19 certain criteria to enroll in certain classes at post-secondary
20 educational institutions and to earn credit at the secondary
21 and post-secondary levels simultaneously; and

22 WHEREAS, one of the purposes of the legislation was to
23 replace the varied and inconsistent practices and arrangements
24 for dual credit that had occurred in the past with a uniform
25 dual credit program throughout the state; and

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1 WHEREAS, the legislation and the agency rules governing
2 the statewide dual credit program went into effect for school
3 year 2008-2009; and

4 WHEREAS, during the 2009 interim, the legislative
5 education study committee examined the dual credit program and
6 found strong support for the program at secondary and post-
7 secondary institutions alike as well as significant increases
8 in the level of student participation in the program; and

9 WHEREAS, the examination by the legislative education
10 study committee found that, although there had been notable
11 progress toward statewide uniformity, there were still
12 instances of inconsistency in terms of student eligibility,
13 courses offered, compensation of instructors and other aspects
14 of the formal agreements between secondary and post-secondary
15 institutions; and

16 WHEREAS, the examination by the legislative education
17 study committee also found instances of confusion about similar
18 terms, such as dual credit, concurrent enrollment and dual
19 enrollment, and confusion about similar programs, such as dual
20 credit, articulated courses, advanced placement courses and
21 middle college high schools; and

22 WHEREAS, the examination by the legislative education
23 study committee also found instances of competition for
24 resources, instructors and students between the dual credit
25 program and the advanced placement program; and

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1 WHEREAS, an evaluation of the dual credit program by the
2 higher education department and the public education department
3 during the 2009 interim identified certain issues with
4 articulated courses and the geographic areas of responsibility
5 assigned to two-year post-secondary institutions;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the higher education department and
8 the public education department be requested to convene a work
9 group to develop a master plan for accelerated learning that
10 would offer high school students multiple options for study at
11 the post-secondary level; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this work group include
13 representatives not only of the higher education department and
14 the public education department, but also of school districts,
15 charter schools, state-supported schools, two-year public post-
16 secondary educational institutions, four-year public post-
17 secondary educational institutions, the middle college high
18 school in Gallup, the New Mexico association of community
19 colleges, the New Mexico independent community colleges, the
20 council of university presidents, the New Mexico coalition for
21 charter schools, the New Mexico coalition of school
22 administrators and other stakeholders as appropriate; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan for accelerated
24 learning address issues in the uniform implementation of the
25 dual credit program identified by the legislative education

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1 study committee and by the higher education department and the
2 public education department and that the plan identify ways in
3 which the various programs available to students, among them,
4 dual credit, advanced placement, articulated courses,
5 concurrent enrollment and middle college high school, could
6 complement, rather than compete with, each other in the pre-
7 kindergarten through twenty system by identifying the student
8 population and circumstances that each program can serve most
9 effectively; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the work group present its
11 findings and recommendations to the legislative education study
12 committee by November 1, 2010; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, before the plan is
14 implemented, it be reviewed by the legislative education study
15 committee; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
17 transmitted to the secretary of higher education, the secretary
18 of public education and the director of the legislative
19 education study committee.

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