

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO STUDY ACCESS TO
3 PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE NORTHWEST QUADRANT OF THE STATE.

4
5 WHEREAS, most of the sparsely populated school districts
6 in the state have students who live in outlying areas of the
7 district but who are closer to a school in another district;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Gallup-McKinley county school district is
10 one of the largest of New Mexico's school districts and
11 borders six other school districts, Central consolidated,
12 Farmington, Bloomfield, Cuba, Grants and Zuni school
13 districts; and

14 WHEREAS, the Gallup-McKinley county school district has
15 built a new high school, Tse' Yi' Gai high school, in Pueblo
16 Pintado in the northeast corner of McKinley county; and

17 WHEREAS, there are students who live in the Bloomfield
18 school district but who are closer to Tse' Yi' Gai high
19 school, and they have requested to attend Tse' Yi' Gai because
20 they would have to travel only twenty miles to and from school
21 instead of forty miles; and

22 WHEREAS, the high school has the capacity to take those
23 students, and the Public School Code allows such a transfer,
24 but the Bloomfield school district has not agreed to allow
25 those students to transfer to Tse' Yi' Gai high school; and

1 WHEREAS, public schools should be provided for the
2 convenience of students, not school districts, and school
3 districts should do everything in their power to make it easy
4 for students to attend school, remain in school and graduate;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, this is just one example of the problems
7 created by school boundaries that do not take into account
8 where students live; and

9 WHEREAS, the house of representatives requested, in
10 2009, that the Indian education division of the public
11 education department study the issue of public education
12 access for students in the northwest quadrant of the state;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be
15 requested to complete its study and resolve issues of public
16 education access for students in the northwest quadrant of
17 the state; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
19 department report its findings and recommendations to the
20 legislative education study committee by August 1, 2011; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the public education department and the
23 director of the legislative education study committee. _____