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SENATE MEMORIAL 87

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH A
PARENT ENGAGEMENT OFFICE TO INCREASE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN
PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, parental involvement is integral to student
success; and

WHEREAS, the southwest educational development laboratory
synthesized ten years of research from fifty-one studies and
found that students whose parents are involved in their
education are more likely to:

- A. earn higher grades and test scores and enroll in
higher-level programs;
- B. pass their classes and be promoted to the next
grade;
- C. attend school regularly;

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1 D. have better social skills, show improved
2 behavior and adapt well to school; and

3 E. graduate and go on to post-secondary education;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, advisory school councils are mandated in law to
6 foster parental and community involvement and stakeholding in
7 schools; and

8 WHEREAS, advisory school councils, which consist of the
9 school leader and an equitable balance of public school staff,
10 parents and community members, could provide more assistance to
11 schools by developing and implementing public school
12 improvement plans; and

13 WHEREAS, determining additional ways to engage parents
14 would further benefit schools and improve student progress; and

15 WHEREAS, since most parents need and want to be heard,
16 soliciting and collecting feedback from parents through
17 efficacy surveys would enhance parents' roles as stakeholders;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, efficacy surveys would provide valuable
20 information to public school leaders and teachers about current
21 levels of parental participation and areas in which additional
22 parental participation would help students and the public
23 school;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
25 OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be

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1 encouraged to study the feasibility of establishing a parent
2 engagement office to:

3 A. maximize the parental involvement efforts of
4 public schools;

5 B. collect data on parental involvement;

6 C. review and monitor school district parental
7 involvement policies and family engagement action and
8 implementation plans;

9 D. develop corrective action plans for public
10 schools and school districts regarding family engagement;

11 E. advise school districts on integrating
12 activities that will encourage parental involvement in public
13 schools; and

14 F. collect data about family involvement in each
15 public school activity, such as band boosters, athletic
16 boosters, academic decathlon supporters and the advisory school
17 council, in order to determine the activities that need more
18 parental involvement; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the secretary of public education.

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