

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

SENATE MEMORIAL 25

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

INTRODUCED BY

Michael Padilla

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING COUNCIL AND  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND  
DISABILITY TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT A NEEDS  
ASSESSMENT AND REPORT ON WAYS TO IMPROVE THE SYSTEM OF SCHOOL-  
TO-WORK TRANSITION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN NEW  
MEXICO.

WHEREAS, a public education department post-school outcome  
survey in 2012 reported that employment was declining for  
individuals with any disability, but in particular for those  
individuals reporting a developmental disability; and

WHEREAS, national data from the United States department  
of labor reflects that more than seventy percent of students  
with disabilities leave high school each year without  
employment prospects; and

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

1           WHEREAS, diminished employment prospects set a lifetime  
2 pattern and expectation of dependence on public assistance,  
3 poverty, inactivity and segregation from the community; and

4           WHEREAS, the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
5 Act, which took effect on July 1, 2015, requires that states  
6 engage in a unified strategic planning process and collaborate  
7 to improve school-to-work transition outcomes for students with  
8 disabilities; and

9           WHEREAS, the act provides a promising opportunity for New  
10 Mexico youth with disabilities; and

11           WHEREAS, for New Mexico to successfully comply with the  
12 new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act mandates, it is  
13 important for state and local agencies serving youth with  
14 disabilities to work cooperatively and to leverage their  
15 resources; and

16           WHEREAS, successful outcomes must engage local community  
17 organizations, advocacy groups and youth with disabilities and  
18 their families in planning and education; and

19           WHEREAS, the creation of a task force to include young  
20 adults with disabilities and state, local and community  
21 stakeholders would facilitate compliance with the Workforce  
22 Innovation and Opportunity Act;

23           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
24 OF NEW MEXICO that the developmental disabilities planning  
25 council and the university of New Mexico center for development

.202825.1

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

1 and disability be requested to convene a task force to conduct  
2 a needs assessment and report on ways to improve the system of  
3 school-to-work transition of students with disabilities in New  
4 Mexico; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
6 make formal recommendations for changes to existing policies,  
7 programs or regulatory provisions that would:

8 A. address barriers to effective school-to-work  
9 transition for youth with disabilities;

10 B. result in more effective services for youth with  
11 disabilities as they make the transition from school to work;

12 C. improve the efficiency of the school-to-work  
13 transition process for students with disabilities;

14 D. increase the knowledge of students with  
15 disabilities and their family members on transition from  
16 school-to-work options; and

17 E. maximize outcomes, including lifelong  
18 opportunities for persons with disabilities to obtain  
19 competitive integrated employment; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of  
21 one or more young adults with disabilities who have  
22 transitioned from high school to adult life and their family  
23 members; and representatives of the developmental disabilities  
24 planning council, the university of New Mexico center for  
25 development and disability, parents reaching out, the

.202825.1

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

1 vocational rehabilitation division of the public education  
2 department, the public education department, the developmental  
3 disabilities supports division of the department of health, the  
4 workforce solutions department, youth development inc.,  
5 advocacy organizations, centers for independent living, the  
6 governor's commission on disability and disability rights New  
7 Mexico; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its  
9 findings and recommendations to the legislative education study  
10 committee by December 1, 2016; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
12 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of public education,  
13 the executive director of the developmental disabilities  
14 planning council and the president of the university of New  
15 Mexico.