

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 7

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Michael Padilla

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE TO CONVENE
12 A NEW MEXICO EDUCATION CYBERSECURITY TASK FORCE TO STUDY
13 CYBERSECURITY ISSUES THREATENING PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

14
15 WHEREAS, state government is committed to securing
16 information online and protecting schools; and

17 WHEREAS, web access is key to many technologies used in
18 classrooms as well as administrative systems; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico's public schools need a unified vision
20 for tackling cybersecurity; and

21 WHEREAS, cyber attacks are a serious and consistent threat
22 to public schools, and appropriate countermeasures must be
23 taken; and

24 WHEREAS, securing information sharing between public and
25 private sector organizations is essential to defending the

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1 state's online data; and

2 WHEREAS, securing critical infrastructure is vital to
3 educational well-being; and

4 WHEREAS, the creation of a New Mexico education
5 cybersecurity task force is critical to address the following
6 issues:

7 A. what priorities and where funding allocations
8 for cybersecurity measures should be allocated;

9 B. how funds would be distributed;

10 C. how to share knowledge of the best cybersecurity
11 practices among school districts and charter schools;

12 D. how to focus on cybersecurity threat prevention
13 and identify outside resources and education available to
14 public schools and the state;

15 E. how to promote student awareness and education
16 of online threats and how best to protect personal information;
17 and

18 F. the inclusion of the fundamentals of awareness
19 and assessment for data gathered for each school district; and

20 WHEREAS, resources to address cybersecurity issues are
21 available as many cybersecurity vendors and products exist and
22 compete for state business;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
24 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative education study
25 committee be requested to convene an education cybersecurity

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1 task force to study cybersecurity issues threatening public
2 schools; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the education cybersecurity
4 task force include:

- 5 A. four representatives from school districts;
- 6 B. the secretary of information technology or the
7 secretary's designee;
- 8 C. one representative from the public education
9 department; and
- 10 D. one representative from the public school
11 facilities authority; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the education cybersecurity
13 task force be requested to report its findings, conclusions and
14 recommendations to the governor and the legislature by October
15 1, 2020; and

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