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HOUSE MEMORIAL 44

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

Raymundo Lara

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE TO CONVENE
A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE RISING COSTS OF INSURANCE PREMIUMS
FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND THE GROUP INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS
PROVIDED FOR IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL INSURANCE AUTHORITY ACT
DURING THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE INTERIM.

WHEREAS, the legislature enacted the Public School
Insurance Authority Act to provide comprehensive core insurance
programs, including reimbursement coverage for the costs of
providing due process to students with disabilities, for all
participating schools, school board members, school board
retirees and public school employees and retirees by expanding
the pool of subscribers to maximize cost containment
opportunities for required insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, the Public School Insurance Authority Act

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1 provides for the following group insurance contributions for
2 school districts, charter schools and other participating
3 entities:

4 A. at least eighty percent of the cost of the
5 insurance of an employee whose annual salary is less than fifty
6 thousand dollars (\$50,000);

7 B. at least seventy percent of the cost of the
8 insurance of an employee whose annual salary is fifty thousand
9 dollars (\$50,000) or more but less than sixty thousand dollars
10 (\$60,000); and

11 C. at least sixty percent of the cost of the
12 insurance of an employee whose annual salary is sixty thousand
13 dollars (\$60,000) or more; and

14 WHEREAS, due to the rising costs of medical care, an aging
15 workforce and the prevalence of chronic illness, health
16 insurance premiums have increased and are projected to continue
17 to increase; and

18 WHEREAS, although the legislature has increased the
19 salaries of school employees in recent years, the increase in
20 insurance premiums may interfere with the legislature's intent
21 for previous and future salary increases for school employees;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
23 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative
24 education study committee be requested to convene a working
25 group to study the rising costs of insurance premiums for

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1 school employees and the group insurance contributions provided
2 for in the Public School Insurance Authority Act during the
3 2025 legislative interim; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group consist of
5 representatives of relevant state agencies, including the
6 public education department, the department of finance and
7 administration and the general services department; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group also include
9 a representative of the public school insurance authority and
10 representatives of school districts and charter schools; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative education
12 study committee prepare a written report of the working group's
13 findings and recommendations and submit copies of the report to
14 the governor and the legislature; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the legislative education study committee for
17 distribution to prospective members of the working group.