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**HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 53**

**45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002**

**INTRODUCED BY**

**Gail C. Beam**

**A JOINT MEMORIAL**

**REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO DIRECT THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION TO STUDY THE USE OF NONTENURE-TRACK FACULTY BY NEW MEXICO'S POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN PLACE OF TENURE-TRACK, FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL FACULTY AND TO REPORT TO THE APPROPRIATE INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.**

**WHEREAS, a quality college or university must have a staff of full-time, permanent, tenured faculty to maintain high academic standards; and**

**WHEREAS, public colleges and universities are resorting to replacing tenured and tenure-track faculty positions with increasing numbers of nontenure-track and part-time teaching positions; and**

**WHEREAS, courses should be taught by highly qualified**

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1 people, whether full-time or part-time, tenured or nontenured,  
2 who are paid a professional salary and included in the  
3 academic processes; and

4 WHEREAS, studies have shown that the majority of part-  
5 time faculty members teach under substandard conditions; and

6 WHEREAS, part-time and nontenure-track positions are  
7 disproportionately occupied by women; and

8 WHEREAS, national professional organizations representing  
9 university and community college faculty, administrators and  
10 trustees have agreed that fair compensation for part-time and  
11 nontenure-track faculty should be based on commensurate  
12 qualifications with tenure-track faculty, with a goal of pro  
13 rata rather than per-course-hour rates;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be  
16 requested to direct the appropriate interim legislative  
17 committee to review the growing dependence on part-time and  
18 nontenure-track faculty in New Mexico's post-secondary  
19 educational institutions; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher  
21 education and each post-secondary educational institution be  
22 requested to report to the appropriate interim legislative  
23 committee on the use and compensation of part-time and  
24 nontenure-track faculty; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher

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1 education, in consultation with post-secondary educational  
2 institutions and faculty organizations, consider policies  
3 designed to discourage over-reliance on part-time and  
4 nontenure-track faculty for undergraduate instruction while  
5 protecting those instructors performing effectively in such  
6 positions; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher  
8 education make recommendations by November 2002 to the  
9 appropriate interim legislative committee on the establishment  
10 of minimum salary and fringe benefits provisions indexed to  
11 tenure-track faculty compensation for part-time and nontenure-  
12 track faculty to ensure fair employment and consistent  
13 emphasis on quality instruction at all levels, from lower  
14 divisions through graduate instruction; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
16 transmitted to members of the New Mexico legislative council,  
17 the commission on higher education and the president of each  
18 of New Mexico's post-secondary educational institutions.