HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 69

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE FUNDING FORMULA STUDY TASK FORCE TO INCLUDE
VIRTUAL SCHOOLS, DISTANCE EDUCATION AND OTHER ONLINE EDUCATION
PROGRAMMING IN THE FUNDING FORMULA STUDY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS;
URGING LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE SUPPORT FOR THE USE OF THIS
IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE, PARTICULARLY FOR RURAL AND
SMALLER SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

WHEREAS, educational programs that allow students to learn
any subject anytime, anywhere and at any place are known by
several names, including virtual school, distance education,
internet-based education, cybereducation or e-education; and

WHEREAS, the public education department distinguishes the
three major categories of online education as follows:

(1)　virtual schools are those that offer online
education that replicates all of the functions carried out by

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1　traditional bricks and mortar schools, and courses may be

2　synchronous or asynchronous;

3　　　　　(2)　distance education is a strategy that delivers

4　select courses in a traditional school setting; and

5　　　　　(3)　internet-based education is the broadest

6　category in that it may include instructor-led courses

7　typically found in distance education or may include web sites

8　specifically intended to present problem-based learning, and

9　traditional schools often use this approach as a means of

10　integrating technology with a curriculum by assigning research

11　or writing tasks that rely on internet information sources; and

12　　　WHEREAS, each category uses technology to deliver five key

13　processes of learning, to wit, instruction, assessment,

14　prescription, intervention and performance data management; and

15　　　WHEREAS, these online educational tools are particularly

16　important for students in rural areas because they are the

17　means to provide educational opportunities by qualified

18　instructors that a small school district may not be able to

19　offer with current staff; and

20　　　WHEREAS, online education can be an efficient and cost-

21　effective way to deliver quality education and a much broader

22　academic program to New Mexico public school students; and

23　　　WHEREAS, the public school funding formula has not kept

24　pace with the advances in education through online resources;

25　and

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1　　　　　WHEREAS, as the funding formula study task force prepares

2　the request for proposals for a comprehensive study of the

3　formula, it is imperative that it include this vital

4　educational resource in the study in order to determine

5　adequate funding for online educational opportunities for

6　children;

7　　　　　NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

8　STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the funding formula study task force

9　be requested to study costs and funding for online education

10　and be urged to include funding for online education in any

11　proposed funding formula; and

12　　　　　BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature be urged to

13　pay a portion of the costs to provide online education in rural

14　and smaller school districts this year and next year outside

15　the funding formula; and

16　　　　　BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education

17　department be urged to support online education appropriations

18　and assist school districts in selecting online education

19　programming that meets or exceeds statewide academic standards

20　and that takes into account the special techniques of course

21　design, special instructional techniques, special methods of

22　communication by electronic and other technology as well as the

23　special organizational and administrative arrangements needed

24　for a successful online educational offering; and

25　　　　　BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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transmitted to the funding formula study task force and the

public education department.

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