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HOUSE MEMORIAL 43

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

INTRODUCED BY

Hector H. Balderas

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE STUDY AND RECOMMEND
DEFINITIONS AND POLICY REGARDING VIRTUAL SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, virtual schools are accredited school programs
offered over the internet or by other electronic or digital
media; and

WHEREAS, virtual schools, while being an alternative or
supplement to the traditional brick and mortar educational
format, often provide the only effective and efficient
educational format for students with disabilities and some
rural students; and

WHEREAS, the number of virtual schools is increasing
nationwide, as is the number of course and program offerings by
virtual schools; and

WHEREAS, as the concept of virtual schools begins to take

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1 hold in the public education system, issues involving the
2 incorporation of virtual schools have arisen, including
3 compulsory attendance laws, who is eligible for virtual
4 schools, funding, staffing, connectivity, uniformity of class
5 material and terminology; and

6 WHEREAS, issues involving virtual schools must be
7 deliberated and decided so that virtual schools can become an
8 effective and efficient adjunct to the current educational
9 model and, in the process, create a new model that will improve
10 the educational opportunities for all of New Mexico's students;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
12 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative
13 education study committee be requested to study and make
14 recommendations for defining terminology and creating policy
15 regarding virtual schools in New Mexico; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
17 transmitted to the chair of the legislative education study
18 committee.