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HOUSE MEMORIAL 43

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013

INTRODUCED BY

Patricia A. Lundstrom

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE INDIAN EDUCATION DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT TO STUDY
THE FEASIBILITY OF A BISTATE CHARTER SCHOOL IN THE RED LAKE
CHAPTER OF THE NAVAJO NATION.

WHEREAS, Alfred Barney, president of the Red Lake chapter
of the Navajo Nation, presented a letter of intent to the
interim legislative Indian affairs committee to establish a
charter school within the Red Lake chapter; and

WHEREAS, the proposed charter school would be a joint
project between New Mexico and Arizona because the chapter lies
on the border of both states and serves community members on
both sides of the state line; and

WHEREAS, the proposed charter school would be one of the
first charter schools established in the Navajo Nation; and

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1 WHEREAS, the school would not only provide education to
2 the local population, it would also increase the number of
3 children who stay in the community; and

4 WHEREAS, many of the young people in Red Lake have dropped
5 out of high school; and

6 WHEREAS, vocational programs, particularly animal sciences
7 and agriculture, could be popular with young people and serve
8 the needs of the community; and

9 WHEREAS, relevant educational opportunities, where
10 real-life skills are taught and where there is Navajo input,
11 are critical to the success of students in the Navajo Nation;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the proposed charter school could meet the
14 educational needs of Navajo children living in both New Mexico
15 and Arizona;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the Indian
18 education division of the public education department and the
19 Indian affairs department create a work group to study the
20 feasibility of a bistate charter school in the Red Lake chapter
21 of the Navajo Nation and develop a report with findings and
22 recommendations; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the work group present its
24 report to the governor, the legislative education study
25 committee and the appropriate interim legislative committee by

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December 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, the legislative education study committee, the secretary of public education, the secretary of Indian affairs, the Navajo Nation department of Dine education, the governor of Arizona and the Arizona department of education.