

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE PUBLIC
3 EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS DEPARTMENT
4 TO COLLABORATE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGH-QUALITY CAREER
5 PATHWAYS THAT BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULA, POST-SECONDARY
6 STUDIES AND TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
7 NEW MEXICO STUDENTS.

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9 WHEREAS, a highly skilled and well-educated work force
10 is a critical component of the New Mexico economy; and

11 WHEREAS, a 2013 study by Georgetown university indicates
12 that there will be three hundred thirty-five thousand job
13 openings in New Mexico by 2020, with significant job growth
14 rates in the fields of science, technology, engineering,
15 mathematics, health care and education; and

16 WHEREAS, most of the new jobs created in New Mexico will
17 require at least some post-secondary education and training,
18 including industry certifications; and

19 WHEREAS, career and technical education programs with
20 rigorous academic content tied to technical subject matter,
21 internships and other cooperative work experiences, can help
22 students obtain industry certificates and credentials
23 necessary to meet New Mexico's work force needs; and

24 WHEREAS, the work force demands of the future could be
25 met by preparing current secondary students through career

1 and technical education programs that establish career
2 pathways; and

3 WHEREAS, it is important to strengthen the connection
4 between career and technical education programs and the
5 state's work force demands; and

6 WHEREAS, a significant collaboration among private
7 sector industries, higher education institutions, work force
8 development agencies and public schools could help the state
9 address its current and future work force demands; and

10 WHEREAS, clearly structured and coordinated pathways to
11 advanced educational opportunities could assist students in
12 developing expectations for occupational and salary outcomes
13 as they progress through career pathways to greater levels of
14 educational attainment and career advancement;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the higher education department, the
17 public education department and the workforce solutions
18 department be requested to collaborate on high-quality career
19 pathways that bridge high school curricula, post-secondary
20 studies and twenty-first century job opportunities for all
21 New Mexico students; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the departments engage
23 relevant stakeholders to develop policies and initiatives
24 that close the gap between career pathway study programs and
25 work force opportunities; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the departments, in
2 collaboration with relevant stakeholders, establish policy
3 initiatives to create guidance systems for career
4 information, exploration and advisement for secondary
5 students and early advanced credential programs for students
6 pursuing economically viable career pathways; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the departments report their
8 findings and progress to the legislative education study
9 committee no later than November 1, 2015; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
11 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of higher
12 education, the secretary of public education and the secretary
13 of workforce solutions. _____

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