

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 105

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE PUBLIC
12 EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS DEPARTMENT TO
13 COLLABORATE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGH-QUALITY CAREER
14 PATHWAYS THAT BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULA, POST-SECONDARY
15 STUDIES AND TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL NEW
16 MEXICO STUDENTS.

17
18 WHEREAS, a highly skilled and well-educated work force is
19 a critical component of the New Mexico economy; and

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

25 WHEREAS, most of the new jobs created in New Mexico will

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1 require at least some post-secondary education and training,
2 including industry certifications; and

3 WHEREAS, career and technical education programs with
4 rigorous academic content tied to technical subject matter,
5 internships and other cooperative work experiences, can help
6 students obtain industry certificates and credentials necessary
7 to meet New Mexico's work force needs; and

8 WHEREAS, the work force demands of the future could be met
9 by preparing current secondary students through career and
10 technical education programs that establish career pathways;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, it is important to strengthen the connection
13 between career and technical education programs and the state's
14 work force demands; and

15 WHEREAS, a significant collaboration among private sector
16 industries, higher education institutions, work force
17 development agencies and public schools could help the state
18 address its current and future work force demands; and

19 WHEREAS, clearly structured and coordinated pathways to
20 advanced educational opportunities could assist students in
21 developing expectations for occupational and salary outcomes as
22 they progress through career pathways to greater levels of
23 educational attainment and career advancement;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
25 OF NEW MEXICO that the higher education department, the public

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1 education department and the workforce solutions department be
2 requested to collaborate on high-quality career pathways that
3 bridge high school curricula, post-secondary studies and
4 twenty-first century job opportunities for all New Mexico
5 students; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the departments engage
7 relevant stakeholders to develop policies and initiatives that
8 close the gap between career pathway study programs and work
9 force opportunities; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the departments, in
11 collaboration with relevant stakeholders, establish policy
12 initiatives to create guidance systems for career information,
13 exploration and advisement for secondary students and early
14 advanced credential programs for students pursuing economically
15 viable career pathways; and

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

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of higher education,
21 the secretary of public education and the secretary of
22 workforce solutions.