

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 117

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

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 URGING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO SEEK PUBLIC AND
12 PRIVATE GRANTS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST CHARTER SCHOOLS
13 WITH PLANNING AND FACILITIES AND TO MAINTAIN LISTS OF PUBLIC
14 AND PRIVATE DIRECT GRANTS FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS.

15
16 WHEREAS, the United States department of education
17 provides competitive grants to state education departments and
18 to charter schools to assist new charter schools in planning
19 and financing their operations; and

20 WHEREAS, under some of the grants, it is the New Mexico
21 public education department's responsibility to apply for
22 charter school planning grants from the United States
23 department of education on behalf of charter schools in the
24 state; and

25 WHEREAS, one of the functions of the secretary of public

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1 education is to apply for and receive grants; and

2 WHEREAS, there are at least eight competitive grants
3 administered by the federal charter schools program that are
4 currently available to help both new charter schools and
5 established charter schools; and

6 WHEREAS, federal education grant 84.282A provides state
7 education departments with federal funds to assist new charter
8 schools with planning money; and

9 WHEREAS, another federal education grant, 84.282D,
10 provides state education departments with federal funds for
11 per-student aid for financing charter school facilities, which
12 may be applicable to New Mexico; and

13 WHEREAS, there is an exemplary collaboration grant that
14 provides funding to high-quality charter schools to partner
15 with non-chartered public schools and others to share best
16 educational and operational practices; and

17 WHEREAS, grants received by the public education
18 department for charter schools, and grants the charter schools
19 receive, help provide needed funding for planning, facilities,
20 development and dissemination of best practices, collaboration
21 and replication and expansion of high-quality public schools;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, everything that is planned, accomplished and
24 improved in the public school system without state money means
25 that state money can go further or be used more efficiently, in

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1 a system that is significantly underfunded, toward the
2 constitutional requirement of sufficiency; and

3 WHEREAS, the public education department should be the
4 public school system's clearinghouse for all public schools
5 seeking additional funding for their current programs or for
6 program innovations and research-based teaching methodologies;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
8 OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be urged to
9 apply for every federal grant for which the state is qualified
10 to provide funding assistance to new and established charter
11 schools to help them become high-quality schools; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department keep current
13 and disseminate a list of available public and private grants
14 for which charter schools must apply directly; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of public
16 education report to the legislative education study committee
17 by November 1 on the department's success in applying for
18 grants for charter schools; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the secretary of public education and the
21 director of the legislative education study committee.