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HOUSE MEMORIAL 88

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

INTRODUCED BY

Anthony Allison

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE A TASK  
FORCE TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO THE CENTRAL CONSOLIDATED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, the central consolidated school district in San  
Juan county issued school bonds for its facilities; and

WHEREAS, the central consolidated school district  
currently is obligated to repay the bonds; and

WHEREAS, a large percentage of the funds used by the  
central consolidated school district to repay the outstanding  
bonds comes from property tax paid by the owners of the San  
Juan generating station; and

WHEREAS, the owners of ninety-five percent of the San Juan  
generating station have indicated their intent not to continue  
their participation in the San Juan generating station after

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1 mid-2022, and the public service company of New Mexico has  
2 indicated that it will file an application to abandon the San  
3 Juan generating station in 2022; and

4 WHEREAS, the abandonment of the San Juan generating  
5 station may have a large impact on the property tax revenues  
6 available for the central consolidated school district to repay  
7 the bonds; and

8 WHEREAS, it is critical that the central consolidated  
9 school district have a plan to obtain sufficient funds to repay  
10 the bonds if property tax revenues are lost;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
12 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public  
13 education department be requested to convene, by August 1,  
14 2019, a task force to study the potential changes to the  
15 central consolidated school district's property tax base and  
16 potential changes related to mill levies and bonding capacity  
17 to determine if the school district will have a potential  
18 deficit in funds to repay the bonds; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of:

- 20 A. the secretary of public education;
- 21 B. the chair of the public school capital outlay  
22 council;
- 23 C. the director of the legislative finance  
24 committee;
- 25 D. the director of the legislative education study

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1 committee;

2 E. the secretary of taxation and revenue;

3 F. the San Juan county assessor;

4 G. the superintendent of the central consolidated  
5 school district;

6 H. the president of the Navajo Nation;

7 I. the chair of the public regulation commission;

8 J. a resident residing in San Juan county appointed  
9 by the central consolidated school district board; and

10 K. a parent of a child attending a school in the  
11 central consolidated school district appointed by the central  
12 consolidated school district board; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
14 present a report no later than October 1, 2019 to the governor,  
15 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president  
16 pro tempore of the senate on its findings regarding:

17 A. possible reductions in property tax funds  
18 provided to the central consolidated school district due to the  
19 closure of the San Juan generating station and estimated new  
20 property tax revenue from new resources anticipated to be built  
21 in the area;

22 B. the availability of state funds provided to the  
23 central consolidated school district to repay the bonds;

24 C. the estimated amount of additional funding  
25 needed for the central consolidated school district to be able

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1 to make the bond payments;

2 D. the estimated amount of additional funding  
3 needed for the central consolidated school district to be able  
4 to maintain facilities into the future; and

5 E. recommendations regarding options to provide the  
6 central consolidated school district with sufficient funds to  
7 be able to repay the bonds and maintain its facilities; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
9 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the chair of  
10 the public school capital outlay council, the director of the  
11 legislative finance committee, the director of the legislative  
12 education study committee, the secretary of taxation and  
13 revenue, the San Juan county assessor, the board president of  
14 the central consolidated school district, the speaker of the  
15 Navajo Nation council and the chair of the public regulation  
16 commission.