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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 2

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

INTRODUCED BY

Sheryl Williams Stapleton and Gay G. Kernan

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CREATION OF A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION TASK  
FORCE TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FUNDING OF  
CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS ALIGNED TO WORKFORCE NEEDS  
AND TO PROVIDE A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF FUNDING CAREER  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, education provides the foundation for students to  
enter and succeed in their chosen fields of employment; and

WHEREAS, all students need employability skills and  
knowledge to meet standards that have been identified for each  
career pathway; and

WHEREAS, career technical education classes of all kinds  
are increasingly seen as roads to additional study after high  
school and are meant to be more academically rigorous; and

WHEREAS, new labor market realities reflect a shifting,

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1 and increasingly automated, economy that offers few jobs for  
2 those without some kind of post-secondary training, credential  
3 or degree; and

4 WHEREAS, career technical education prepares students for  
5 the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies  
6 and makes academic content accessible by providing hands-on  
7 experiences in various industry sectors; and

8 WHEREAS, developing high-quality career technical  
9 education programs requires expertise in career fields,  
10 knowledge of the academic content foundations of career  
11 decisions, employability skills aligned to workforce  
12 employment, post-secondary requirements for credentials and  
13 degrees, opportunities for work-related experiences and  
14 apprenticeships and partnerships with local employers and  
15 post-secondary educational institutions; and

16 WHEREAS, public schools have indicated a desire to develop  
17 career technical education programs to increase education  
18 options for their students but lack funding to develop and  
19 implement programs that meet the needs of their students and  
20 the local or regional labor market; and

21 WHEREAS, funding for career technical education programs  
22 requires equipment and often specialized student work areas;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, developing career technical education programs  
25 requires a multi-year commitment from schools and school

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1 districts to adequately prepare students to complete their  
2 programs, earn a credential, certification or degree and find  
3 employment; and

4 WHEREAS, funding for career technical education has been  
5 limited and not available statewide, creating inequities; and

6 WHEREAS, high-quality career technical education programs  
7 have been shown to increase graduation rates and contribute to  
8 improved academic achievement;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative education study  
11 committee and the legislative finance committee be requested to  
12 convene a career technical education task force to examine the  
13 funding requirements of developing career technical education  
14 programs statewide and to provide a report on the status of  
15 career technical education in New Mexico; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education  
17 department be requested to assist the career technical  
18 education task force and include as members representatives who  
19 have technical knowledge of, and expertise in, career technical  
20 education, including the following:

21 A. six members who are middle and high school  
22 teachers engaged in career technical education;

23 B. four members who are school principals,  
24 superintendents, school board members or other education  
25 administrators familiar with career technical education;

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1 C. two enrolled members of Indian nations, tribes  
2 or pueblos;

3 D. five members of the employment sector;

4 E. two higher education faculty members familiar  
5 with career technical education;

6 F. one member of the senate, appointed by the  
7 president pro tempore of the senate; and

8 G. at least one member of the house of  
9 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of  
10 representatives; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the career technical education  
12 task force be requested to present its findings and  
13 recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative  
14 committee by November 1, 2020; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
16 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the secretary  
17 of higher education, the chair of the legislative education  
18 study committee and the chair of the legislative finance  
19 committee.