

1 HOUSE BILL 489

2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 E. Diane Torres-Velásquez and Pamelya Herndon and Harold Pope
5 and Janelle Anyanonu
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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO THE BLACK EDUCATION LIAISON; ASSIGNING THE DUTY OF
12 LINKING TO AN ONLINE REPORTING PORTAL; PROVIDING THAT
13 INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO THE PORTAL IS CONFIDENTIAL; CHANGING
14 WHITE PAPERS TO POLICY BRIEFS OR POSITION PAPERS.
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16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

17 SECTION 1. Section 22-23C-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2021,
18 Chapter 51, Section 5) is amended to read:

19 "22-23C-5. BLACK EDUCATION LIAISON CREATED--DUTIES.--

20 A. The "Black education liaison" is created in the
21 department.

22 B. The liaison shall:

23 (1) focus on issues related to Black education
24 and advise the secretary and the council on the development and
25 implementation of public policy regarding the education of

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1 Black students;

2 (2) advise the department and the council on
3 the development and implementation of the five-year strategic
4 plan for public elementary and secondary education in the state
5 as the plan relates to ~~[Black student]~~ the education of Black
6 students;

7 (3) assist and be assisted by other staff in
8 the department and in the higher education department to
9 improve elementary, secondary and post-secondary educational
10 outcomes for Black students;

11 (4) maintain and update information on the
12 department's website or a separate website that includes:

13 (a) subject to funding, links to a
14 statewide ~~[hotline]~~ online reporting portal for reporting
15 ~~[racially charged incidents]~~ school-based incidents of racism
16 or racial discrimination against anyone. A submission and any
17 information in connection to the submission made through the
18 online portal is not a public record and is exempt from the
19 Inspection of Public Records Act;

20 (b) links to the department's Black
21 education ~~[white]~~ policy briefs or position papers as well as
22 other pertinent research; and

23 (c) information on and links to
24 historically Black colleges and universities;

25 (5) serve as a resource to enable school

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1 districts and charter schools to provide equitable and
2 culturally relevant learning environments, educational
3 opportunities and culturally relevant instructional materials
4 for Black students enrolled in public schools;

5 (6) support and consult with the council;

6 (7) support school districts and charter
7 schools to recruit parents on site-based and school district
8 committees that represent the ethnic diversity of the
9 community; and

10 (8) implement activities that are recommended
11 and prioritized by the council within available funding."