

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 67

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
2000**

INTRODUCED BY
Danice Picraux

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION, THE
LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE AND THE EDUCATIONAL
INITIATIVES AND ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS ON CLASS SIZE REDUCTIONS.

WHEREAS, educational research demonstrates that reduced
class size has a positive and significant impact on student
achievement; and

WHEREAS, reduced student-teacher ratios contribute to an
improved and enhanced classroom learning and teaching
environment; and

WHEREAS, other states, such as Tennessee, have conducted
long-term studies of the impact of lowering student-teacher
ratios in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence of a correlation between
lower student-teacher ratios and effective classroom

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1 discipline; and

2 WHEREAS, classroom teachers appear to suffer less career
3 dissatisfaction when student-teacher ratios are reduced;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public
6 education, the legislative education study committee and the
7 educational initiatives and accountability task force be
8 requested to study and make recommendations on class size
9 initiatives being conducted in other states like Tennessee as
10 those initiatives relate to school reform measures; study the
11 benefits of class size reduction on student achievement in
12 comparison to other reform measures; and make recommendations
13 on the positive impact on students and teachers in a reduced
14 sized classroom; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of
16 public education, the legislative education study committee
17 and the educational initiatives and accountability task force
18 report their findings and recommendations to the New Mexico
19 legislative council no later than December 15, 2000; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to members of the legislative education study
22 committee and its director, members of the educational
23 initiatives and accountability task force and the
24 superintendent of public instruction.
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