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SENATE MEMORIAL 41

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Bernadette Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO STUDY  
THE FISCAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS OF ELIMINATING THE TWELFTH GRADE  
FOR HIGH SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

WHEREAS, high school students within New Mexico are  
capable of completing their high school graduation  
requirements in three years rather than four years; and

WHEREAS, many high school students do not currently take  
a full course load during their fourth year of high school;  
and

WHEREAS, the fiscal benefit to the state of eliminating  
the twelfth grade for high school students throughout New  
Mexico will save the state a significant amount of money; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the twelfth grade for high  
school students within the state may also benefit local

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1 communities by producing a younger workforce;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
3 OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public education be  
4 requested to study the fiscal benefits to the state and the  
5 social impact on students of eliminating the twelfth grade for  
6 high school students within New Mexico; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of  
8 public education consult with educators, parents, members of  
9 the business community, members of educational organizations  
10 and members of the criminal justice community regarding the  
11 impact on students and the community of eliminating the  
12 twelfth grade in high schools in New Mexico; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include an analysis  
14 of the impact on the current state and federal laws if  
15 students graduated from high school at the age of sixteen or  
16 seventeen; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to the superintendent of public instruction.