

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 14

2 **45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A  
12 TASK FORCE OF EDUCATION EXPERTS TO REVIEW AND RECODIFY THE  
13 PUBLIC SCHOOL CODE.

14  
15 WHEREAS, the legislature of the state of New Mexico is  
16 resolved to improve lifelong learning and to provide the  
17 children of this state with a quality education so that they  
18 may be prepared for higher education and productive careers  
19 and to be productive citizens of this state; and

20 WHEREAS, the legislature's overarching goal is to  
21 increase student achievement and to ensure that all students  
22 achieve at their full potential so that they will be able to  
23 compete in post-secondary education and in the world market;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, educators and educational and business  
organizations have informed the legislature that the Public  
School Code impedes innovation in education and hinders the  
implementation of educational initiatives that have the  
potential of improving our current educational system; and

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1           WHEREAS, the legislature believes that all students must  
2 be provided the opportunity to graduate from high school and  
3 be prepared for higher education and productive careers; and

4           WHEREAS, in order for all students to graduate from high  
5 school and be prepared for higher education and productive  
6 careers, it is imperative that the Public School Code be  
7 assessed in light of reform initiatives, such as  
8 accountability, full-day kindergarten and the statewide  
9 reading initiative, which have been implemented by the  
10 legislature;

11           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council  
13 appoint a task force of education experts to identify any  
14 statutes that may impede innovation and the overarching goal  
15 of improving student achievement and to make recommendations  
16 to recodify the Public School Code to enable the progress of  
17 public schools and the achievement of students; and

18           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative  
19 council consider involving the state board of education, the  
20 state department of public education, the commission on higher  
21 education, public school personnel, educational and business  
22 organizations and other interested parties in gathering input  
23 regarding the Public School Code and recommendations regarding  
24 recodification of the Public School Code to enhance the  
25 progress of schools and the achievement of students; and

          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff of the legislative  
education study committee and the state department of public  
education assist the legislative council service in staffing  
this task force; and

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1           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force of educational  
2 experts report to the legislature regarding its  
3 recommendations for recodifying the Public School Code prior  
4 to the first session of the forty-sixth legislature; and

5           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
6 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative  
7 council, the director of the legislative education study  
8 committee and the superintendent of public instruction.