



underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 New Mexico's top educational priorities; and

2 WHEREAS, national educational research has clearly  
3 established the relationship between the quality of school  
4 library collections and student literacy and academic  
5 achievement levels; and

6 WHEREAS, national educational research relating the  
7 quality of collections to academic achievement has been  
8 confirmed specifically for New Mexico in a study for which the  
9 preliminary results were released in November 2001; and

10 WHEREAS, the New Mexico task force for school libraries  
11 reported to the legislative education study committee in 2000  
12 on the development of public school library program standards,  
13 the deficiencies of New Mexico school library collections and  
14 the need for improving school library collections and  
15 requested additional funding for these purposes in November  
16 2000; and

17 WHEREAS, maintaining adequate school libraries requires a  
18 stable level of funding;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative education study  
21 committee and the state department of public education, with  
22 participation of professional school librarians and library  
23 associations, be requested to study the feasibility of the  
24 establishment of a permanent funding mechanism for school  
25 library material similar to the instructional material fund

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1 that guarantees equitable access to textbooks and other  
2 instructional materials; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include as a fiscal  
4 criterion the cost of one book per student per year for each  
5 New Mexico public school student for library acquisitions; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative education  
7 study committee and the state department of public education  
8 be requested to report their findings and recommendations to  
9 the legislature by November 2002; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
11 transmitted to the members of the legislative education study  
12 committee and to the superintendent of public instruction.