

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 75

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

DIRECTING THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE  
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RESIDENTIAL STATEWIDE MATHEMATICS AND  
SCIENCE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

WHEREAS, the education of the youth of New Mexico is vital  
to the well-being of its citizens, the growth of industry and a  
vigorous economy; and

WHEREAS, development of high-technology skills in New  
Mexico is the key to attracting modern, high-technology  
industries with high-paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, the education of students in mathematics and the  
sciences is fundamental to a work force that will attract  
modern industry; and

WHEREAS, being a rural state, a majority of New Mexico  
citizens and students reside outside major metropolitan areas;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, other states have successfully invested in  
3 residential senior high schools for highly gifted and qualified  
4 students to benefit from a superior college preparatory  
5 education in mathematics and the sciences; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico's gifted youth deserve the best  
7 opportunities for a superior college preparatory education in  
8 mathematics and the sciences, regardless of where they live;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative education study  
11 committee staff be directed to evaluate the benefits, costs,  
12 funding and organizational issues of establishing within the  
13 state a residential, college preparatory mathematics and  
14 science senior high school designed for junior and senior  
15 students who show particular gifts or aptitudes for mathematics  
16 and science; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such a school be limited in  
18 enrollment to one hundred twenty-five to two hundred students,  
19 have enrollment based upon a competitive, highly selective  
20 application process and be free of cost to enrolled students  
21 from all geographic area of the state; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the evaluation by legislative  
23 education study committee look to the successes of other states  
24 in establishing such a program, especially Oklahoma, which is a  
25 state similarly situated in regard to a large rural population

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1 and broad geography; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislative education study  
3 committee report its findings to the house and senate  
4 committees responsible for education matters no later than  
5 November 2004; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
7 transmitted to the director of the legislative education study  
8 committee and the governor.

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