

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE OFFICE OF
3 EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY AND THE STATE AUDITOR TO AUDIT THE
4 ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH OF
5 THE DISTRICT'S BUDGET GOES TO ADMINISTRATION AND IF THE
6 DISTRICT IS CLASSIFYING EXPENDITURES IN THE APPROPRIATE
7 SUBFUNDS OR FUNCTIONS OF THE NEW UNIFORM CHART OF ACCOUNTS.

8
9 WHEREAS, with approximately ninety-four thousand six
10 hundred students, Albuquerque public schools is the largest
11 school district in the state and one of the largest in the
12 country; and

13 WHEREAS, the public school funding formula is based in
14 part on the assumption that large school districts can
15 achieve certain economies of scale; and

16 WHEREAS, according to national center for education
17 statistics data, many districts of similar size and
18 composition are able to achieve economies of scale that allow
19 them to spend less on administrative costs; and

20 WHEREAS, Albuquerque public school district's general
21 fund net operational subfund expenditures by function reports
22 consistently show that the district is among the lowest for
23 expenditures for administrative functions in New Mexico; and

24 WHEREAS, the district has shown a difference of no more
25 than two-tenths of one percent in expenditure in the

1 administration subfund under the former chart of accounts for
2 the last ten years; and

3 WHEREAS, during that time, the district modified its
4 administrative structure to include four superintendents, all
5 of whom were receiving salaries of over one hundred thousand
6 dollars (\$100,000) plus benefits, the district did not show
7 an increase in expenditures in the administration subfund;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the other four operational subfunds also show
10 very little movement in the percent of their expenditures
11 over the same ten-year period; and

12 WHEREAS, the district reports would seem to indicate
13 that it is not now spending any more of its state
14 equalization guarantee distribution in the direct instruction
15 subfund than it did in 1996-1997;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative finance committee,
18 the office of education accountability and the state auditor
19 be requested to audit Albuquerque public schools to determine
20 how much of the school district's budget actually goes to
21 functions 2300, 2500, 2600 and 2900 as specified in the
22 uniform chart of accounts manual of procedures; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit determine if
24 Albuquerque public school district is reporting its
25 expenditures in the appropriate categories; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit team report its
2 findings and recommendations to the legislative finance
3 committee, the legislative education study committee and the
4 public education department by November 1, 2007. _____

SJM 59
Page 3

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