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HOUSE MEMORIAL 85

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

David E. Adkins and Christine Trujillo

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT TO MEET AT
LEAST QUARTERLY WITH DISTRICT LEGISLATORS AND OTHER PUBLIC
OFFICIALS.

WHEREAS, the Albuquerque public school district is the
largest school district in the state and the thirty-first
largest in the country; and

WHEREAS, at least twenty-five percent of state public
school funding goes to the Albuquerque public school district;
and

WHEREAS, community engagement and accountability are more
difficult to achieve the larger a school district becomes, and
research shows that community engagement and accountability are
vital components of successful schools and students; and

WHEREAS, over the last two decades, there have been

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1 several calls by legislators and others to redistrict the
2 Albuquerque public school district into two or more smaller
3 districts, believing that smaller districts would be more
4 responsive to the communities and the needs of the students
5 they serve; and

6 WHEREAS, there is a significant disconnect among public
7 education policymakers within the school district, with local
8 legislators and other public officials often left in the dark
9 about policies that affect their constituents; and

10 WHEREAS, both the school board and the legislature
11 recognize that much more can be done to improve communications
12 and relations among local and state policymakers, particularly
13 among those policymakers who represent the same constituents as
14 the school board;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the Albuquerque
17 school board, the local superintendent and local legislators
18 and other public officials in the school district be requested
19 to meet at least quarterly to discuss issues facing the school
20 district and strides the district has made in improving
21 graduation rates; truancy and drop-out rates; test scores,
22 particularly third-grade reading scores; progress toward
23 closing the achievement gap between students of different races
24 and incomes; improvements in other markers of sustained
25 academic growth of its students; efforts made to improve

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1 community engagement and relations; and gains made in improving
2 school personnel job satisfaction and morale; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these quarterly meetings be
4 held in different areas of the school district and that the
5 specific concerns of the area's local legislator, city
6 councilor or county commissioner, as applicable, be addressed;
7 and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
9 transmitted to the Albuquerque public school district board of
10 education, the local superintendent, legislators whose
11 districts are located wholly or partially within the
12 Albuquerque public school district boundaries, city councilors
13 and county commissioners and the secretary of public education.