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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CREATION OF A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FUNDING OF CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS ALIGNED TO WORKFORCE NEEDS AND TO PROVIDE A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF FUNDING CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, education provides the foundation for students to enter and succeed in their chosen fields of employment; and

WHEREAS, all students need employability skills and knowledge to meet standards that have been identified for each career pathway; and

WHEREAS, career technical education classes of all kinds are increasingly seen as roads to additional study after high school and are meant to be more academically rigorous; and

WHEREAS, new labor market realities reflect a shifting, and increasingly automated, economy that offers few jobs for those without some kind of post-secondary training, credential or degree; and

WHEREAS, career technical education prepares students for the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies and makes academic content accessible by providing hands-on experiences in various industry sectors; and

1 WHEREAS, developing high-quality career technical
2 education programs requires expertise in career fields,
3 knowledge of the academic content foundations of career
4 decisions, employability skills aligned to workforce
5 employment, post-secondary requirements for credentials and
6 degrees, opportunities for work-related experiences and
7 apprenticeships and partnerships with local employers and
8 post-secondary educational institutions; and

9 WHEREAS, public schools have indicated a desire to
10 develop career technical education programs to increase
11 education options for their students but lack funding to
12 develop and implement programs that meet the needs of their
13 students and the local or regional labor market; and

14 WHEREAS, funding for career technical education programs
15 requires equipment and often specialized student work areas;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, developing career technical education programs
18 requires a multi-year commitment from schools and school
19 districts to adequately prepare students to complete their
20 programs, earn a credential, certification or degree and find
21 employment; and

22 WHEREAS, funding for career technical education has been
23 limited and not available statewide, creating inequities; and

24 WHEREAS, high-quality career technical education
25 programs have been shown to increase graduation rates and

1 contribute to improved academic achievement;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative education study
4 committee and the legislative finance committee be requested
5 to convene a career technical education task force to examine
6 the funding requirements of developing career technical
7 education programs statewide and to provide a report on the
8 status of career technical education in New Mexico; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
10 department be requested to assist the career technical
11 education task force and include as members representatives
12 who have technical knowledge of, and expertise in, career
13 technical education, including the following:

14 A. six members who are middle and high school
15 teachers engaged in career technical education;

16 B. four members who are school principals,
17 superintendents, school board members or other education
18 administrators familiar with career technical education;

19 C. two enrolled members of Indian nations, tribes
20 or pueblos;

21 D. five members of the employment sector;

22 E. one member from the workforce solutions
23 department;

24 F. two higher education faculty members familiar
25 with career technical education;

1 G. one member of the senate, appointed by the
2 president pro tempore of the senate; and

3 H. at least one member of the house of
4 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of
5 representatives; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the career technical
7 education task force be requested to conduct its meetings in
8 a manner that is open to the public, with reasonable notice
9 to the public, consistent with the provisions of Section
10 10-15-1 NMSA 1978; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the career technical
12 education task force be requested to present its findings and
13 recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative
14 committee by November 1, 2020; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the
17 secretary of higher education, the chair of the legislative
18 education study committee and the chair of the legislative
19 finance committee. _____

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