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HOUSE MEMORIAL 48

55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2022

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO LEAD A
COMPREHENSIVE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS
EDUCATION-TO-CAREER PIPELINE STUDY, INCLUDING HIGH-QUALITY
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS, AND REPORT FINDINGS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, in 2019, as in previous years, core-subject
proficiency levels across the state were extremely low, with
data showing that in grades three through twelve, thirty-five
percent of students were proficient in science, thirty-three
percent were proficient in reading and twenty percent were
proficient in mathematics; and

WHEREAS, science, technology, engineering and mathematics
jobs are in high demand in New Mexico and in the United States;
and

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1 WHEREAS, public schools and public post-secondary
2 educational institutions both offer career readiness programs
3 that develop students' communication, critical thinking and
4 time management skills as well as emotional intelligence and
5 that enable students to enter directly into the workforce after
6 graduation, not just for entry-level work, but for career
7 success in the long term; and

8 WHEREAS, the early childhood education and care
9 department, public education department, higher education
10 department and workforce solutions department have established
11 "RISE NM", research informing success in education, to create a
12 centralized resource that will be used to inform policy and
13 close gaps as students transition from each phase of their
14 education and into the workforce; and

15 WHEREAS, to be effective, science, technology, engineering
16 and mathematics teachers need professional development that is
17 content-focused, incorporates active learning and supports
18 collaboration and coaching, and that professional development
19 must be sustained over time, providing repeat opportunities for
20 feedback and reflection; and

21 WHEREAS, for ongoing professional development to produce
22 high-quality science, technology, engineering and mathematics-
23 focused teachers who stay in the classroom, public schools and
24 public post-secondary educational institutions must work
25 collaboratively to strategically support and implement a

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1 professional development system that fills in gaps in knowledge
2 and sustains educator growth; and

3 WHEREAS, for students, extended learning encompasses
4 programs and strategies that are implemented to increase the
5 amount of instruction and learning, including in- and after-
6 school and summer programs, and that provide an opportunity for
7 science, technology, engineering and mathematics-focused
8 additional time, which can be beneficial to students, but only
9 if that time is spent in ways that maximize teaching and
10 learning; and

11 WHEREAS, the development of research on evidence-based
12 programs is critical to determine the most effective extended
13 learning programs in science, technology, engineering and
14 mathematics;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public
17 education department, the higher education department and the
18 workforce solutions department be requested to conduct a
19 comprehensive science, technology, engineering and mathematics
20 education-to-career pipeline study, which includes an inventory
21 of current programs and initiatives; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the departments provide the
23 inventory to the legislative finance committee and the
24 legislative education study committee by September 1, 2023; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education

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1 department be requested to work with the higher education
2 department and the workforce solutions department to address
3 the statewide science, technology, engineering and mathematics
4 teacher shortage crisis and to build a highly qualified,
5 effective and diverse science, technology, engineering and
6 mathematics teacher workforce; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
8 department report the findings and recommendations of the study
9 and the plan for a science, technology, engineering and
10 mathematics education-to-career pipeline to the governor and
11 the legislature by December 1, 2023; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the governor; the chair of the legislative
14 education study committee; the chair of the legislative finance
15 committee; the secretary of public education for distribution
16 to local superintendents; the secretary of higher education for
17 distribution to public post-secondary educational institutions;
18 and the secretary of workforce solutions.