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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 72

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

INTRODUCED BY

SAMUEL F. VIGIL

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE COUNCIL ON TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION AND THE
LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE EQUITY OF
CURRENT FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY.

WHEREAS, according to the general accounting office, New
Mexico school districts may have the greatest need for
investment in education technology when compared to the rest of
the nation; and

WHEREAS, the legislative education study committee
conducted a survey of New Mexico school districts in 1995 and
found that school districts rely on local property taxes for the
majority of revenue for computers and other technology capital
outlay purchases; and

WHEREAS, ability to raise revenue for computers and other
technology capital outlay purchases varies dramatically by

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1 district; and

2 WHEREAS, access to capital outlay revenue is also limited
3 because thirty-one school districts had reached practical
4 bonding capacity and were in need of financial assistance from
5 the public school capital outlay council in 1995; and

6 WHEREAS, total state revenue distributed from the
7 educational technology fund and direct legislative
8 appropriations accounted for less than twenty percent of the
9 total revenue raised for education technology; and

10 WHEREAS, of the amount provided by the state in 1995,
11 approximately three million dollars (\$3,000,000) was distributed
12 on a per-pupil basis to all districts while the remaining one
13 million four hundred thousand dollars (\$1,400,000) was allocated
14 to only eight school districts; and

15 WHEREAS, the council on technology in education, appointed
16 by the state board of education as required by the Technology
17 for Education Act, has recommended that the legislature refrain
18 from making direct appropriations for education technology to
19 school districts because of concerns over equitable access to
20 technology; and

21 WHEREAS, the total estimated need for a minimum level of
22 technology equipment and infrastructure in schools in
23 approximately one hundred sixty-eight million dollars
24 (\$168,000,000) after accounting for the annual revenue currently
25 being raised by individual school districts; and

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1 WHEREAS, the estimated need for training, maintenance and
2 telecommunication charges is approximately thirty-three million
3 dollars (\$33,000,000) over the next five years in addition to
4 the one hundred sixty-eight million dollars (\$168,000,000) for
5 capital; and

6 WHEREAS, the distribution method required by the Technology
7 for Education Act provides funding on a per-pupil basis which
8 does not account for local ability to raise revenue or specific
9 local technology needs;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the council on technology in education,
12 with the assistance of the state department of public education
13 and the legislative education study committee, be requested to
14 examine the equity of the current funding mechanisms available
15 to the state and local school districts for funding education
16 technology needs of local school districts; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the council on technology in
18 education study programmatic and funding options for equalizing
19 access to education technology resources in local school
20 districts and make recommendations to the legislative education
21 study committee by November 1, 1996; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the superintendent of public instruction and the
24 director of the legislative education study committee staff for
25 appropriate distribution.

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION, 1996

February 12, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 72

has had it under consideration and finds same to be
GERMANE in accordance with constitutional provisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Perea Casey,

Chairperson

Adopted _____

Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

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4 The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

5 Yes: 10

6 Excused: Lujan, Olguin, Rodella, R. G. Sanchez, S. M Williams

7 Absent: None

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION, 1996

February 14, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 72

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel F. Vigil, Chairman

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FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996

HEC/HJM 72

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 7 For 0 Against

Yes: 7

Excused: Dolliver, Mi era, Nicely, Weeks, SM Williams

Absent: None

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