HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 35

43rd legislature - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - second session, 1998

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MIMI STEWART

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION STUDY METHODS FOR TEACHING READING SKILLS TO CHILDREN IN PRIMARY GRADES AND THAT THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION STUDY HOW PUBLIC POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ARE TEACHING LANGUAGE ARTS SKILLS FOR WORKING WITH CHILDREN IN PRIMARY GRADES.

WHEREAS, it is of great importance that children in primary grades learn basic reading skills; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for institutions of higher education to focus on preparing pre-service teachers with knowledge and skills necessary to work with children in primary grades so they can learn to read; and

WHEREAS, research shows that if schools delay intervention until age seven for children experiencing

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difficulty, seventy-five percent will continue to have difficulty; and

WHEREAS, poorly developed knowledge of spelling and spelling-sound correspondence is found to be the most frequent, debilitating and pervasive cause of reading difficulty; and

WHEREAS, young readers must develop accurate word recognition, and research verifies that they are much more likely to do so if they receive reading instruction that includes phonics; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that strong phonological skills lead children to demonstrate effective reading comprehension and expanded vocabulary skills in third grade and beyond;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public education study types of teaching strategies used to teach reading skills to children in primary grades and determine what children in primary grades should know by the time they reach the third-grade level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of public education study the level of knowledge of first-year teachers of primary grades to teach phoneme awareness, concepts of print and the letter-sound relationship through a systematic sequential approach; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of public education study the current research available regarding reading and language skills of children in primary grades; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of public education study intervention strategies available if a child in a primary grade is not reading; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher education study methods, including those based on structural, systematic sequential approaches, for teaching reading skills to children in primary grades; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as training is designed, the state department of public education give attention to areas of beginning reading in which the research base for successful practices is becoming clearer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of public education ensure that in-service professional development should include enough theory and up-to-date research to provide teachers with the rationale for specific instructional changes in the ways they currently teach reading; training in understanding phonemic awareness and ways to teach it; phonics instruction that is dynamic, systematic and reinforced through connected text; and instruction in the use of appropriate diagnostic tools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the education departments of . 120346.4

public post-secondary educational institutions report to the legislative education study committee by October 31, 1998 regarding the research used to improve methods for teaching reading skills to children in primary grades; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the state department of public education, the commission on higher education and the legislative education study committee.

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE SECOND SESSION, 1998

February 9, 1998

Mr. Speaker:

Your **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**, to whom has been referred

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

 ${\bf Respectfully\ submitted,}$

Rick Mera, Chairman

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2		SECOND SE	ESSION, 1998	
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6		(Chi ef Clerk)		(Chief Clerk)
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8		Date		
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10	The roll ca	all vote was <u>6</u> For <u>1</u>	Against	
11	Yes:	6		
	No:	Mallory		
12	Excused:	Beam, Nicely, Trujillo	o-Knauer, Vigil, W.	C. Williams, Wright
13	Absent:	None		
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4	FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE										
5	SECOND SESSION, 1998										
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8	February 16, 1998										
9	Mr. President:										
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11	Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 35										
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14	has had it under consideration and reports same with										
13	recommendation that it DO PASS .										
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17	Respectfully submitted,										
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23	Cynthia Nava, Chairman										
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