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SENATE BILL 26

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Richard M. Romero

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; CREATING A STUDENT ATTENDANCE
OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. STUDENT ATTENDANCE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE--
CREATION--TERMINATION.--The "student attendance oversight task
force" is created. The task force shall function from the
date of its appointment until the first day of December prior
to the second session of the forty-fourth legislature.

Section 2. MEMBERSHIP--APPOINTMENT--VACANCIES.--

A. The student attendance oversight task force
shall be composed of six legislative members; three public
advisory members, one of whom shall be a graduate of or
current student at an alternative high school and one of whom
shall be a graduate of or current student at a public high

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1 school; and one representative from the state department of
2 public education.

3 B. Three members of the house of representatives
4 shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of
5 representatives and three members of the senate shall be
6 appointed by the committees' committee of the senate or, if
7 the senate appointments are made in the interim, by the
8 president pro tempore of the senate after consultation with
9 and the agreement of a majority of the members of the
10 committees' committee. Members shall be appointed from each
11 house so as to give the two major political parties in each
12 house the same proportional representation on the task force
13 as prevails in each house; however, in no event shall either
14 party have less than one member from each house on the task
15 force. Vacancies on the task force shall be filled by
16 appointment in the same manner as the original appointments.

17 C. The governor shall appoint, so as to represent
18 the state's ethnic and geographic diversity, three public
19 advisory members to the task force.

20 D. The members of the task force shall be paid per
21 diem and mileage in accordance with the provisions of the Per
22 Diem and Mileage Act plus reimbursement for reasonable actual
23 expenses.

24 E. The task force shall also include one advisory
25 member representing the state department of public education

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1 appointed by the president of the state board of education.

2 F. The speaker of the house of representatives and
3 the president pro tempore of the senate shall each designate
4 one co-chairman of the task force.

5 Section 3. DUTIES.--

6 A. After its appointment, the student attendance
7 oversight task force shall hold one organizational meeting to
8 develop a work plan and budget for the ensuing interim. The
9 work plan and budget shall be submitted to the New Mexico
10 legislative council for approval.

11 B. Upon approval of the work plan and budget by
12 the legislative council, the task force shall oversee the
13 implementation of the legislative directives relating to
14 student attendance and graduation, including development of a
15 method to allocate the funds that each school district
16 receives under the state equalization guarantee to create
17 incentives to improve the student attendance and graduation
18 rate.

19 C. The task force shall recommend legislation or
20 changes, if any are found to be necessary, to the legislature.

21 Section 4. REPORT.--The student attendance oversight
22 task force shall make a report of its findings and
23 recommendations for the consideration of the second session of
24 the forty-fourth legislature. The reports and suggested
25 legislation shall be made available to the New Mexico

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1 legislative council on or before November 1 preceding the
2 session.

3 Section 5. STAFF.--The staff for the student attendance
4 oversight task force shall be provided by the legislative
5 council service.