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HOUSE BILL 76

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

INTRODUCED BY

Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION; CREATING A JOINT  
INTERIM PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE; MAKING AN  
APPROPRIATION.

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

**SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--PUBLIC SCHOOL  
TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE CREATED--MEMBERSHIP--DUTIES--  
TERMINATION.--**

A. The joint interim "public school transportation  
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 fiftieth legislature.

B. The task force shall be composed of the  
following members appointed by the New Mexico legislative  
council:

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1 (1) five members from the house of  
2 representatives;

3 (2) five members from the senate; and

4 (3) six other members, including a  
5 representative of the public education department, the office  
6 of education accountability of the department of finance and  
7 administration, a public school district, a charter school, a  
8 school bus contractor and an organization representing school  
9 bus transportation employees employed by school bus  
10 contractors.

11 C. At the time of making appointments, the New  
12 Mexico legislative council shall designate the chair and vice  
13 chair of the task force. Members shall be appointed from each  
14 house so as to give the two major political parties in each  
15 house the same proportionate representation on the task force  
16 as prevails in each house; provided that in no event shall  
17 either of the parties have less than one member from each house  
18 on the task force. Members may be removed from the task force  
19 by the New Mexico legislative council at the request of the  
20 chair of the task force for nonattendance according to council  
21 policy. Vacancies on the task force, however caused, may be  
22 filled by the New Mexico legislative council, or the council  
23 may reduce the size of the task force by not making replacement  
24 appointments and in such case need not adjust party  
25 representation.

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1           D. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum  
2 for the transaction of business. The support of a majority of  
3 the members is required for adoption of any action; provided  
4 that final actions must have the support of a majority of the  
5 legislative members.

6           E. After its appointment, the task force shall:

7                   (1) hold one organizational meeting to develop  
8 a work plan and budget for the approval of the New Mexico  
9 legislative council;

10                   (2) examine the statutes, constitutional  
11 provisions, rules and court decisions governing public school  
12 transportation in New Mexico, including those provisions  
13 related to the transportation funding formula; the personnel  
14 costs to school districts and school bus contractors; the costs  
15 of fuel, equipment and maintenance; and the administration of  
16 the public school transportation program; and

17                   (3) make a report of its findings and  
18 recommendations to the legislature and the governor on or  
19 before December 1, 2011. No action shall be taken by the task  
20 force if a majority of the total membership from either house  
21 on the task force rejects such action.

22           F. Members of the task force are entitled to per  
23 diem and mileage as provided in the Per Diem and Mileage Act  
24 and shall receive no other compensation, perquisite or  
25 allowance.

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