

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 10

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE CREATION OF A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION TASK
12 FORCE TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FUNDING OF
13 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS ALIGNED TO WORKFORCE NEEDS
14 AND TO PROVIDE A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF FUNDING CAREER
15 TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN NEW MEXICO.

16
17 WHEREAS, education provides the foundation for students to
18 enter and succeed in their chosen fields of employment; and

19 WHEREAS, all students need employability skills and
20 knowledge to meet standards that have been identified for each
21 career pathway; and

22 WHEREAS, career technical education classes of all kinds
23 are increasingly seen as roads to additional study after high
24 school and are meant to be more academically rigorous; and

25 WHEREAS, new labor market realities reflect a shifting,

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1 and increasingly automated, economy that offers few jobs for
2 those without some kind of post-secondary training, credential
3 or degree; and

4 WHEREAS, career technical education prepares students for
5 the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies
6 and makes academic content accessible by providing hands-on
7 experiences in various industry sectors; and

8 WHEREAS, developing high-quality career technical
9 education programs requires expertise in career fields,
10 knowledge of the academic content foundations of career
11 decisions, employability skills aligned to workforce
12 employment, post-secondary requirements for credentials and
13 degrees, opportunities for work-related experiences and
14 apprenticeships and partnerships with local employers and
15 post-secondary educational institutions; and

16 WHEREAS, public schools have indicated a desire to develop
17 career technical education programs to increase education
18 options for their students but lack funding to develop and
19 implement programs that meet the needs of their students and
20 the local or regional labor market; and

21 WHEREAS, funding for career technical education programs
22 requires equipment and often specialized student work areas;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, developing career technical education programs
25 requires a multi-year commitment from schools and school

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1 districts to adequately prepare students to complete their
2 programs, earn a credential, certification or degree and find
3 employment; and

4 WHEREAS, funding for career technical education has been
5 limited and not available statewide, creating inequities; and

6 WHEREAS, high-quality career technical education programs
7 have been shown to increase graduation rates and contribute to
8 improved academic achievement;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative education study
11 committee and the legislative finance committee be requested to
12 convene a career technical education task force to examine the
13 funding requirements of developing career technical education
14 programs statewide and to provide a report on the status of
15 career technical education in New Mexico; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
17 department be requested to assist the career technical
18 education task force and include as members representatives who
19 have technical knowledge of, and expertise in, career technical
20 education, including the following:

21 A. six members who are middle and high school
22 teachers engaged in career technical education;

23 B. four members who are school principals,
24 superintendents, school board members or other education
25 administrators familiar with career technical education;

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1 C. two enrolled members of Indian nations, tribes
2 or pueblos;

3 D. five members of the employment sector;

4 E. two higher education faculty members familiar
5 with career technical education;

6 F. one member of the senate, appointed by the
7 president pro tempore of the senate; and

8 G. at least one member of the house of
9 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of
10 representatives; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the career technical education
12 task force be requested to present its findings and
13 recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative
14 committee by November 1, 2020; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the secretary
17 of higher education, the chair of the legislative education
18 study committee and the chair of the legislative finance
19 committee.