

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 25

2 **51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING CONGRESS TO CONSIDER THE EDUCATION FOR ALL ACT OF  
12 2011.

13  
14 WHEREAS, children in New Mexico are guaranteed a uniform  
15 system of free public schools under Article 12, Section 1 of  
16 the constitution of New Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, in all of the United States, the free public  
18 school system guarantees all children equal educational  
19 opportunities regardless of gender, race, religion or  
20 socioeconomic status; and

21 WHEREAS, education is recognized by the United Nations as  
22 a basic human right; and

23 WHEREAS, Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human  
24 Rights decrees that compulsory and free education in the  
25 elementary and fundamental stages is the right of every child;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, the United Nations millennium development goals,  
3 to which the United States is a signatory, include the target  
4 that "by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will  
5 be able to complete a full course of primary schooling"; and

6 WHEREAS, Pakistani Malala Yousafzai, a teenager who was  
7 almost killed for her education activism, and other children of  
8 developing countries, as well as their parents, exhibit a  
9 desire for education and a willingness to sacrifice comfort and  
10 sometimes risk their lives in pursuit of education; and

11 WHEREAS, studies show that educating children confers  
12 benefits on the population as a whole, as higher rates of  
13 primary education are correlated with lower rates of food  
14 insecurity and human immunodeficiency virus infection; and

15 WHEREAS, studies also show that every year of schooling  
16 results in a twenty percent reduction in an adolescent boy's  
17 risk of becoming involved in conflict; and

18 WHEREAS, supporting education in developing and conflict-  
19 ridden nations will provide an opportunity for millions to  
20 escape poverty, disease and conflict, thereby promoting global  
21 health, economic security and political stability; and

22 WHEREAS, United States security and prosperity are  
23 enhanced by lowering tensions and unrest in developing  
24 countries, thereby limiting the necessity for armed  
25 interventions; and

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1           WHEREAS, United States' interests are best served by using  
2 its development aid appropriations in the most efficient ways  
3 possible, including working with other donor countries in  
4 multilateral efforts; and

5           WHEREAS, the United States includes education aid in the  
6 money designated specifically for foreign assistance and  
7 benefits from using that money in the most efficient and  
8 effective manner possible; and

9           WHEREAS, maximizing the benefit of foreign aid dollars  
10 through the federal Education for All Act of 2011 would not  
11 negatively affect the resources available for New Mexico's  
12 children and schools; and

13           WHEREAS, the bipartisan Education for All Act of 2011  
14 would amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to promote  
15 primary education in developing countries as an objective of  
16 United States foreign assistance policy; and

17           WHEREAS, universal access to quality primary education for  
18 children is as important for societies around the world as it  
19 is for people in the United States; and

20           WHEREAS, the New Mexico chapters of the national education  
21 association, the American federation of teachers, the New  
22 Mexico association for the education of young children and the  
23 New Mexico public health association have endorsed the  
24 Education for All Act of 2011;

25           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the members of the New Mexico  
2 congressional delegation be requested to consider and to  
3 support the Education for All Act of 2011 and any successors in  
4 future United States congressional sessions, as such bills may  
5 be renamed; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted  
7 to the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation.