

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 128

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pete Campos

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE A TASK  
12 FORCE TO STUDY THE ECONOMIC IMPACT AND FEASIBILITY OF EMPLOYING  
13 ATHLETIC TRAINERS IN NEW MEXICO SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

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15 WHEREAS, the Athletic Trainer Practice Act defines an  
16 athletic trainer as a person who, with the advice and consent  
17 of a licensed physician, practices the treatment, prevention,  
18 care and rehabilitation of injuries incurred by athletes; and

19 WHEREAS, the practice of athletic training includes the  
20 prevention, care and rehabilitation of athletes' injuries; and

21 WHEREAS, athletic trainers could provide valuable services  
22 to secondary schools, by helping to ensure that student  
23 athletes are properly cared for and have a safe environment to  
24 participate in athletics; and

25 WHEREAS, athletic trainers can help reduce the incidence

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1 and severity of student injuries; and

2 WHEREAS, athletic trainers also may provide significant  
3 cost savings and reduce time loss for parents who must be away  
4 from home or work to care for their injured child; and

5 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to study the economic  
6 impacts and other factors of employing athletic trainers in  
7 secondary schools;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
9 OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be requested  
10 to convene a task force to study the economic impact and  
11 feasibility of employing athletic trainers in New Mexico  
12 secondary schools; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
14 study the fiscal impact of whether there is a cost savings by  
15 employing athletic trainers to:

16 A. secondary schools or the school districts;

17 B. the state, with sixty percent of New Mexico's  
18 population using medicaid, a large percentage of whom are  
19 represented in the kindergarten through grade twelve setting;

20 C. the parents or guardians of students enrolled in  
21 secondary schools;

22 D. parents who must take time off work to take  
23 their children to receive medical services when an athletic  
24 trainer is not employed by the school;

25 E. student athletes with the potential for fewer

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1 missed games and practices through diagnosis, treatment and the  
2 referral process of athletic trainers; and

3 F. school districts for potential reductions in  
4 insurance costs based on the standard prevention protocols that  
5 the athletic trainer manages and provides; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force consider  
7 whether appropriate referrals by an athletic trainer to other  
8 health care services could avoid undue stress on emergency  
9 health care services or unnecessary medical costs; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force consider the  
11 impact on the amount of time lost in the classroom due to  
12 students seeking health care services off-site when there is no  
13 athletic trainer employed by a school; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of  
15 representatives of the public education department, the  
16 department of health, the human services department, the office  
17 of superintendent of insurance, the athletic trainer practice  
18 board of the regulation and licensing department, the New  
19 Mexico athletic trainers' association and the New Mexico  
20 activities association; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
22 report its findings and recommendations to the legislative  
23 finance committee by October 1, 2019; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
25 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the secretary

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1 of health, the secretary of human services, the superintendent  
2 of insurance, the superintendent of regulation and licensing,  
3 the president of the New Mexico athletic trainers' association  
4 and the board chair of the New Mexico activities association.

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