

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE TO  
3 ASSEMBLE AN EDUCATION DATA GOVERNANCE AND ARTIFICIAL  
4 INTELLIGENCE WORKING GROUP TO STUDY AND RECOMMEND A STRUCTURE  
5 FOR IMPROVED STATEWIDE EDUCATION DATA GOVERNANCE AND POLICIES  
6 TO ADDRESS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

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8 WHEREAS, access to high-quality data is important for  
9 stakeholders throughout New Mexico's education community,  
10 including families who need data to answer questions about  
11 students' journeys through school and into the workforce,  
12 educators who need information that allows them to quickly  
13 target interventions where they are needed and policymakers  
14 who need data to evaluate whether investments are improving  
15 educational outcomes for students statewide; and

16 WHEREAS, strong program evaluations rely on a foundation  
17 of high-quality data that is accurate, complete, consistent,  
18 granular and timely; and

19 WHEREAS, recent legislative education study committee  
20 staff analysis of educational programs has met complications  
21 due to poor-quality data, resulting in ambiguity in the  
22 analysis of program effectiveness; and

23 WHEREAS, data quality issues occur when schools and  
24 school districts have difficulties reporting reliable  
25 information or when data systems are created in

1 administrative silos; and

2 WHEREAS, many state agencies, including the public  
3 education department, the higher education department, the  
4 early childhood education and care department, the children,  
5 youth and families department, the workforce solutions  
6 department, the vocational rehabilitation division of the  
7 public education department and the department of information  
8 technology, are independently working on data systems and  
9 improvements, but a lack of collaboration and coordination  
10 may perpetuate issues with data quality; and

11 WHEREAS, data quality can be improved through data  
12 governance, a set of rules, policies and standards designed  
13 to promote greater organizational collaboration, higher  
14 quality data and improved usability of data; and

15 WHEREAS, artificial intelligence is a powerful new  
16 technology that can create new opportunities for students,  
17 educators and researchers to expand and deepen learning, but  
18 also creates new uncertainties about what the definition of  
19 "data" might include; and

20 WHEREAS, some artificial intelligence systems may be  
21 given extensive access to educational datasets, personally  
22 identifiable information and culturally sensitive data,  
23 creating novel conditions for data governance policies,  
24 especially regarding the data of Indian nations, tribes and  
25 pueblos in the state; and

1           WHEREAS, the advent of artificial intelligence warrants  
2 a set of rules and policies governing its use in educational  
3 institutions, especially to ensure that artificial  
4 intelligence tools are used effectively and responsibly, are  
5 accessible to all communities across New Mexico, are tailored  
6 to New Mexico's cultural and educational contexts and are not  
7 used as a substitute for meaningful human connection; and

8           WHEREAS, many states have established a statutory  
9 structure for data governance, allowing state agencies and  
10 data users to collaborate on effective policies to improve  
11 data quality, particularly to ensure that statewide  
12 longitudinal data systems provide actionable, accessible and  
13 timely information; and

14           WHEREAS, the RISE NM statewide longitudinal data system  
15 is under construction at the higher education department; and

16           WHEREAS, state agencies that contribute data to the RISE  
17 NM system have a variety of mechanisms and internal processes  
18 to manage data transfers, but there is not a central  
19 mechanism to enforce data quality; and

20           WHEREAS, the legislature has appropriated funds to the  
21 institute for complex additive systems analysis at the New  
22 Mexico institute of mining and technology to conduct an  
23 assessment of data governance policies and assets at various  
24 state agencies; and

25           WHEREAS, to ensure that data is high quality, New Mexico

1 would benefit from a coordinated approach to data governance  
2 among the many agencies working on data systems that honors  
3 the progress state agencies are making on data systems while  
4 still working to improve data quality; and

5 WHEREAS, state agencies should collaborate and  
6 communicate in the creation of a statewide education  
7 governance framework given their deep knowledge of their data  
8 systems, as well as to foster an understanding of the needs  
9 of stakeholders that rely on timely access to data;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
11 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the  
12 legislative education study committee be requested to convene  
13 an education data governance and artificial intelligence  
14 working group throughout the 2025 legislative interim; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group consist of  
16 representation from state agencies representing the agencies'  
17 strategic vision along with technical experts overseeing work  
18 on the agencies' education data systems, including the public  
19 education department, the higher education department, the  
20 early childhood education and care department, the children,  
21 youth and families department, the workforce solutions  
22 department, the vocational rehabilitation division of the  
23 public education department and the department of information  
24 technology; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group include

1 additional membership representing members of the New Mexico  
2 legislature; the legislative finance committee; the institute  
3 for complex additive systems analysis at the New Mexico  
4 institute of mining and technology; school district  
5 superintendents; charter school head administrators; New  
6 Mexico Indian nations, tribes and pueblos; nonprofit  
7 organizations that focus on work directly related to data  
8 quality, research and analysis; faculty of New Mexico  
9 institutions of higher education responsible for analysis of  
10 New Mexico educational programs; current educators; New  
11 Mexico students; and subject matter experts on the topics of  
12 data governance and artificial intelligence; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative education  
14 study committee be requested to select working group members  
15 that promote diversity in regard to race, ethnicity,  
16 language, culture, geography and age; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be  
18 authorized to organize into smaller groups for the purposes  
19 of deep, authentic discussion of various research topics; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be  
21 requested to study the following topics:

22 A. the current status of state education data  
23 systems spanning early childhood education to the workforce  
24 and potential improvements required for interoperability of  
25 data systems;

1           B. an evolved understanding of data present in  
2 early childhood institutions, public schools and workforce  
3 data systems, including the data that might interact with  
4 artificial intelligence, and which types of data need to be  
5 managed in a comprehensive manner;

6           C. current and prospective policies to ensure that  
7 data systems include accurate, complete and consistent  
8 information;

9           D. the unique needs of New Mexico stakeholders  
10 regarding data access and data sovereignty;

11           E. current and prospective policies to ensure that  
12 datasets and reports are transparent and timely for data  
13 users;

14           F. current and prospective policies to maintain  
15 data privacy and security;

16           G. the current uses of artificial intelligence by  
17 students and educators;

18           H. current and potential policies to guide the use  
19 of artificial intelligence in public schools, including  
20 policies to promote access to artificial intelligence,  
21 protect sensitive data, protect data sovereignty and maintain  
22 meaningful human connection in classrooms; and

23           I. formal data governance structures to ensure  
24 ongoing collaboration and coordination of data collection and  
25 maintenance efforts in perpetuity, including the funds,

1 staffing and resources necessary to administer a formal data  
2 governance structure; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be  
4 requested to make recommendations regarding a formal  
5 structure for data governance, statewide education data  
6 governance policies and policies governing the use of  
7 artificial intelligence in education; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group present  
9 its recommendations to the legislative education study  
10 committee by October 31, 2025; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
12 transmitted to the legislative education study committee for  
13 distribution.

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