



The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

48th Legislature, Second Session

LAWS 2008

CHAPTER _____

SENATE MEMORIAL 36

Introduced by

SENATOR BERNADETTE M. SANCHEZ



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT A STUDY BE PERFORMED ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
A PRE-APPRENTICESHIP CURRICULUM IN HIGH SCHOOL
CAREER-TECHNICAL PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, New Mexico has one of the highest dropout rates
in the United States; and

WHEREAS, only twenty-three and nine-tenths percent of
New Mexico high school graduates go on to attend college; and

WHEREAS, students who are not college-bound currently
have inadequate options to keep them engaged in school and on
track for graduation; and

WHEREAS, limited educational resources are currently
dedicated to career-technical and vocational training; and

WHEREAS, an untrained and uninterested student has a
higher likelihood of becoming involved in gangs and other
counterproductive behavior; and

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing demand for well-trained
employees in many technical fields in this state, and those
jobs have high pay scales and provide benefits; and

WHEREAS, students should have an opportunity to start a
trades-based career path during their junior and senior years
of high school through pre-apprenticeship programs; and

WHEREAS, students enrolled in a pre-apprenticeship
curriculum will be better prepared to enter registered

1 apprenticeship programs with some required coursework
2 completed after high school graduation; and

3 WHEREAS, industry experts are often the most qualified
4 teachers for pre-apprenticeship programs and
5 pre-apprenticeship curriculum development; and

6 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest of the state to
7 encourage and facilitate the formation of cooperative
8 relationships among business, labor and educational
9 institutions to develop industry-taught pre-apprenticeship
10 programs in order to give students the skills to meet
11 workforce needs; and

12 WHEREAS, any program or curriculum development that
13 results from the cooperative relationship among business,
14 labor and educational institutions should be called "Running
15 Start for Careers";

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that representatives from the public
18 education department, the higher education department, the
19 workforce solutions department, the economic development
20 department, the association of commerce and industry,
21 industry advocacy groups and registered apprenticeship
22 programs in the state be requested to study the feasibility
23 of implementing an industry-taught pre-apprenticeship
24 curriculum in high school career-technical programs; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

recommendations be presented to the legislative education study committee and any other appropriate legislative committee during the 2008 interim; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of public education, the secretary of higher education, the secretary of workforce solutions, the secretary of economic development, the speaker of the house of representatives, the president pro tempore of the senate and the governor.

s/Diane D. Denish

Diane D. Denish, President
Senate

s/Lenore M. Naranjo

Lenore M. Naranjo, Chief Clerk
Senate