

The Legislature  
of the  
State of New Mexico

48th Legislature, Second Session

LAWS 2008

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

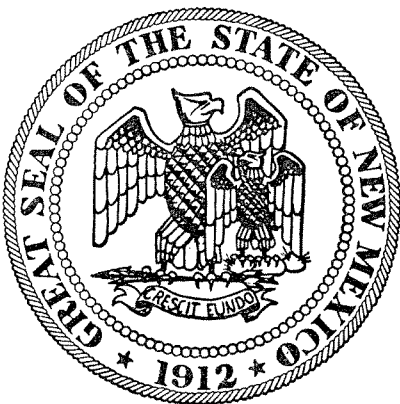
SENATE MEMORIAL 41

---

---

Introduced by

SENATOR GAY G. KERNAN  
SENATOR ROD ADAIR  
SENATOR VERNON D. ASBILL  
SENATOR PETE CAMPOS  
SENATOR DIANNA J. DURAN  
SENATOR CYNTHIA NAVA  
SENATOR MARY KAY PAPAN



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 A STUDY OF THE REGIONAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVES.

WHEREAS, the legislature created the regional education cooperatives in 1993 to bring education-related services to rural and other underserved areas of the state; and

WHEREAS, regional education cooperatives now serve over fifty-nine of the eighty-nine school districts as well as charter schools and state-supported schools; and

WHEREAS, regional education cooperatives bring direct services to children, families and communities, including federal child find activities, which help identify children who may have special needs at an early age when appropriate interventions may be most effective in helping them reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, regional education cooperatives have a unique understanding of the strengths and challenges of their members and provide their members with a variety of services, including professional development, special education and other technical assistance, parent training, data collection and analysis, distance education, grant writing and administration, school-board training, cooperative school nurse services and special education-related services, and other services identified as crucial by their members; and

WHEREAS, regional education cooperatives are a vital and

1 necessary component of New Mexico's education system and  
2 should continue to serve as a conduit and delivery system for  
3 New Mexico's school improvement and educational reforms; and

4 WHEREAS, recent changes in the grant requirements of the  
5 federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and other  
6 federal programs and in the federal process for reimbursing  
7 school districts and other local educational agencies for  
8 expenditures have resulted in financial hardships for the  
9 regional education cooperatives and their members;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative education study  
12 committee, the public education department and the regional  
13 education cooperatives be requested to study the roles,  
14 responsibilities and financial requirements of the regional  
15 education cooperatives; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study include an  
17 examination of the public education department's financial  
18 reimbursement process and the regional education  
19 cooperatives' financial reporting procedures; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative education  
21 study committee, the public education department and the  
22 regional education cooperatives be requested to report their  
23 findings and recommendations, including recommendations for  
24 statutory changes and funding, if necessary, to the  
25 legislative education study committee by October 2008; 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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the director of the legislative education study committee, the secretary of public education and the directors of the regional education cooperatives for appropriate distribution.

SM 41  
Page 3

s/Diane D. Denish  
Diane D. Denish, President  
Senate

s/Lenore M. Naranjo  
Lenore M. Naranjo, Chief Clerk  
Senate