

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 3

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

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO EXPLORE METHODS  
12 TO REINSTATE AND SUPPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY AND CONSUMER  
13 SCIENCES PROGRAMS.

14  
15 WHEREAS, family and consumer sciences education is a field  
16 of study that focuses on families, work and their  
17 interrelationships; and

18 WHEREAS, New Mexico family and consumer sciences educators  
19 foster creativity in students and teach them to work  
20 effectively in teams to solve personal, family, community and  
21 real-world issues; and

22 WHEREAS, those educators engage students in relevant,  
23 hands-on strategies and reinforce principles of planning,  
24 managing and research; and

25 WHEREAS, family and consumer sciences courses encourage

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1 students to act responsibly and productively and become  
2 contributing members of society; and

3 WHEREAS, middle school family and consumer sciences  
4 curricula are designed to address current and extremely  
5 pressing issues that affect the well-being of New Mexico's  
6 children; and

7 WHEREAS, New Mexico family and consumer sciences educators  
8 actively promote and develop science, computer literacy,  
9 engineering and mathematics literacy skills in youth, including  
10 critical thinking, reasoning and problem solving; and

11 WHEREAS, middle school family and consumer sciences  
12 programs enhance a student's knowledge in science with  
13 components focused on the global environment, food and  
14 nutritional sciences, safety and sanitation for cleaner  
15 environments and instruction on food borne illnesses; and

16 WHEREAS, middle school family and consumer sciences  
17 programs include computer literacy components focused on the  
18 use of computer-enhanced kitchen equipment, use of high-  
19 technology machines, computer presentations and other  
20 technology applications; and

21 WHEREAS, those programs also include engineering  
22 components involving interior design, home and kitchen design,  
23 textile design and manufacturing and product development and  
24 packaging; and

25 WHEREAS, the programs include mathematics components,

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1 including food weight and measurement, personal finances and  
2 fitness, family budgeting and taxes and algebra and geometry in  
3 fashion design; and

4 WHEREAS, middle school family and consumer sciences  
5 programs teach career exploration skills, including leadership,  
6 employability, team building, communication and time management  
7 skills; and

8 WHEREAS, middle schools with family and consumer sciences  
9 programs prepare young adults for healthy, sustainable and  
10 successful careers; and

11 WHEREAS, those programs are important in helping students  
12 build a strong foundation for employability, healthy  
13 relationships and vital life skills;

14 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be  
16 requested to explore methods to reinstate and support middle  
17 school family and consumer sciences programs in New Mexico; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education  
19 department be encouraged to inform superintendents and middle  
20 school principals of the necessity for these programs; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by December 1, 2019, the  
22 secretary of public education be requested to report to the  
23 legislative education study committee recommendations to  
24 reinforce and support middle school family and consumer science  
25 programs; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
2 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the board of  
3 directors of the New Mexico association of family and consumer  
4 sciences and the New Mexico school superintendents'  
5 association.

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