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HOUSE MEMORIAL 72

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

INTRODUCED BY

Sandra D. Jeff

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CREATE A TASK  
FORCE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF PERMITTING STUDENTS AT TRIBAL  
COLLEGES TO QUALIFY FOR LEGISLATIVE LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIPS.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the legislative lottery  
scholarship program is to provide tuition assistance for  
qualified New Mexico resident undergraduate students to attend  
New Mexico's public post-secondary educational institutions;  
and

WHEREAS, a significant proportion of New Mexico resident  
undergraduate students choose to attend an accredited tribally,  
federally or congressionally chartered post-secondary  
educational institution located in New Mexico such as the  
Crownpoint institute of technology, Dine college, institute of  
American Indian arts and southwestern Indian polytechnic

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1 institute; and

2 WHEREAS, qualified New Mexico resident undergraduate  
3 students choosing to attend a tribal college should be entitled  
4 to the same state-sponsored tuition assistance as those  
5 qualified New Mexico resident undergraduate students choosing  
6 to attend New Mexico's public post-secondary educational  
7 institutions; and

8 WHEREAS, qualified New Mexico resident undergraduate  
9 students choosing to attend a tribal college are not now  
10 eligible to participate in the legislative lottery scholarship  
11 program; and

12 WHEREAS, the ineligibility of undergraduate students  
13 choosing to attend a tribal college to participate in the  
14 legislative lottery scholarship program is fundamentally unfair  
15 and discriminatory;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico  
18 legislative council be requested to appoint a task force to  
19 conduct a study of the feasibility of permitting undergraduate  
20 students choosing to attend a tribal college in New Mexico to  
21 be eligible for legislative lottery scholarships; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include members  
23 of the interim legislative committee that studies Indian  
24 affairs, the legislative education study committee and the  
25 legislative finance committee and representatives of the higher

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1 education department, the Indian affairs department and each of  
2 the tribal colleges; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its  
4 findings and recommendations to the interim legislative  
5 committee that studies Indian affairs, the legislative  
6 education study committee and the legislative finance committee  
7 by October 1, 2011; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
9 transmitted to the president pro tempore of the senate; the  
10 speaker of the house of representatives; the chairs of the  
11 legislative education study committee and the legislative  
12 finance committee; the secretary of higher education; and the  
13 secretary of Indian affairs.

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