



## HM 12 Yazzie Lawsuit Plan & Reporting

Sponsored by Representative Lente & Representative Rubio

### Our children have the constitutional right to a sufficient education.

In 2018, the court ruled that the State of New Mexico is violating our students' right to a constitutionally sufficient and uniform education in the Yazzie/Martinez case. The court ordered the state to take immediate steps to increase funding, programs, and services to support our children facing the deepest inequities including - English language learners, Native American students, students with disabilities, and students from low income households.

Despite steps taken since 2018, so much more remains to be done. We need a comprehensive education plan to address the deficiencies of our public school system for the benefit of our current and future students. In 2021, the House of Representatives unanimously passed House Memorial 26, asking the Public Education Department to immediately develop such a plan, but they failed to provide one to the legislature by September 30, 2021 as requested.

Our children deserve a high-quality education and every opportunity to become college, career and civic - ready. The state must develop a multi-year investment strategy and plan to make long-lasting transformative changes to our education system.

#### **HM 12 requests the state to:**

- Develop a comprehensive education plan by June 1, 2022 to meet the needs of the four student groups deemed "at-risk" by the court;
- Include in the plan clear goals, action steps, timelines, staffing, and performance and accountability measures, and projected funding amounts necessary to meet the needs of at-risk students;
- Integrate existing education blueprints developed by our tribal and community stakeholders and experts. Our communities know what our kids need and have the solutions that work;
- Ensure the Public Education Department and Higher Education Department work together on a strategy to address the teacher shortage crisis and to build a diverse and qualified teacher workforce; and
- Consult with the plaintiffs on the education plan and attempt to resolve the lawsuit.

### It is time for the state to develop a comprehensive education plan to ensure that all New Mexico's students receive a quality and equitable education.

Transform Education NM is a coalition of education, tribal and community leaders advancing a new vision for our public education system in New Mexico. For more information, visit [transformeducationnm.org](https://transformeducationnm.org).