



# **Support HB 111 (Rep. Tomás Salazar): Build Capacity for RECs to Provide Professional Development in Culturally & Linguistically Responsive Instruction**

***Every child in NM has the right to a sufficient and equitable education.***

**HB 111** builds the capacity for Regional Education Cooperatives (RECs) to provide professional development for educators on culturally and linguistically responsive instruction. HB 111 would provide funding for RECs to contract with local experts to build their capacity to provide professional development in strategies and techniques to most effectively teach culturally and linguistically diverse learners. **This bill would move the State toward compliance with the Yazzie/Martinez court order.**

**The Court ruled that the State is violating the constitutional rights of students to a sufficient education that prepares them for college and career.**

The *Yazzie/Martinez* decision requires the State to provide a multicultural framework of education for all students, including providing instruction that is culturally and linguistically relevant. The State “has not provided a framework [school districts to use in providing a multicultural education]” (Decision & Order, July 2018, at 31).

The Court ruled that the State violated its constitutional duty to provide adequate resources for adequate training and professional development for New Mexico’s teachers. (36)

**Professional development in culturally and linguistically responsive instruction is necessary for high-quality teaching.**

- According to the Legislative Education Study Committee, as one of the most culturally, linguistically, and ethnically diverse states in the country, every New Mexico teacher requires an understanding and ability to engage with students of many backgrounds to be effective.<sup>1</sup>
- School districts currently do not have sufficient support to implement effective bilingual and multicultural education and teachers receive little professional development in culturally/linguistically responsive pedagogy.<sup>2</sup>
- The court acknowledged that teachers working with ELL students in all academic subjects (not just language courses), must receive periodic, ELL-specific professional development.<sup>3</sup>
- The State of New Mexico does not provide districts with sufficient funding to provide professional development to the state’s teachers.<sup>4</sup>

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*This legislation is part of the **Platform for Action** developed by the **plaintiffs in the sufficiency lawsuit, the Transform Education NM coalition, and hundreds of education and community leaders** including educators, parents, tribal leaders, experts and researchers. For information about this bill, contact Edward Tabet-Cubero, Executive Director, NM Learning Alliance at (505) 433-8128, email: [etabetcubero@gmail.com](mailto:etabetcubero@gmail.com).*

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<sup>1</sup> Court’s Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law at 172-73.

<sup>2</sup> Court’s Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law at 129.

<sup>3</sup> Court’s Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law at 74.

<sup>4</sup> Court’s Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law at 183.

# ***Transform Education NM***

## **Platform for Action**

*To transform education for our students and meet the constitutional mandates of the Yazzie/Martinez education ruling, a Platform of Proposed Remedies was developed by the plaintiffs in the Yazzie lawsuit, the Transform Education NM coalition, and hundreds of education and community leaders including educators, parents, tribal leaders, and experts.*

Find the full platform at: <http://nmpovertylaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Transform-Education-NM-Platform-2018-12-11.pdf>



**The platform is endorsed by Transform Education NM:** New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty, College Horizons, Dual Language Education of NM, Native American Community Academy (NACA), NACA Inspired School Network (NISN), Learning Alliance NM, AFT-NM, National Education Association NM (NEA-NM), NM School Boards Association, New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education (NMABE), New Mexico Voices for Children, Keres Learning Center, Coalition for the Majority, Native American Budget & Policy Institute (NABPI), New Mexico Education Action Alliance, CHI St. Joseph's, NGAGE NM, NM Dream Team/United We Dream, Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP), The Santa Fe Indian School Leadership Institute, The Sun Project, and current and former superintendents of school districts and plaintiff school districts (Cuba Independent School District, Gallup-McKinley County Schools, Lake Arthur Public Schools, Moriarty Edgewood School District, Rio Rancho Public Schools, Santa Fe Public Schools).