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State of New Mexico

House of Representatives

COMMITTEES:

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VICE CHAIR: Rules & Order of Business
Appropriations & Finance

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Greetings from the 2023 60-day Legislative Session. As we wrap up our work, I want to thank everyone who has taken time to write, call and/or visit me at the roundhouse! I apologize if you have not received a response to an email--it is impossible to keep up with answering the hundreds of daily emails I receive in a timely manner.

Before the session began, many constituents asked how we can make our communities safer, improve our schools, strengthen our economy, and fight for a clean environment. I would like to share some of the bills I worked on to address these concerns--some successfully and some that will not get through the Senate before the session's end.

As the vice chair of the House Education Committee, I am proud to work in a bipartisan fashion with my colleagues to craft legislation that will move our students forward. Key bills that I have sponsored or co-sponsored include:

- House Bill 130, K-12 Plus Program: Now on the Governor's desk to sign, HB 130 requires 1140 instructional hours for all students. Sixty hours can be embedded for educator professional work in elementary schools and 30 hours can be embedded for middle and high school. For districts and schools choosing to go beyond the required hours, there is a formula that provides them with additional funding.
- HB 375, Charter School Expenditure Plan; HB 199, Increase School At-risk Formula.

Other priority bills include: HB 550, Warrant backlog Reduction; HB 357, Law Enforcement Workforce Building Fund; HB 73, Biomarker Testing Insurance Requirements; HB 471, Alzheimer's Disease & Other Dementia Council; HB 213, Public Private Partnership Act; HB 46, Public Works Project Funds; and two modernization bills: House Joint Resolution 8, Legislative Salaries and HJR 2, Legislative Session Changes (both resolutions require Constitutional amendments and only become law if voters pass them).

In the coming weeks, I will be participating in numerous town halls both in-person and online regarding the 2023 session and future interim committee study topics. I will publicize dates, locations and times in my social media, and publicize final results of legislation as well. I hope to meet you at one of the events. Look for updates on my website at https://www.joy4newmexico.com/ as well as on Twitter at https://twitter.com/joyousgarratt and Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/Joy4NewMexico/. My legislative web site will post final capital outlay allocations at https://www.nmlegis.gov/Members/Legislator?SponCode=HGARR. You can contact me personally by email at joy.garratt@nmlegis.gov or by phone and text at 505-977-5039.

In the spirit of service,

Joy I. Garratt

State Representative, District 29, NW Bernalillo County