



Faculty Senate Transmittal and Administrative Action Routing Form

To: Office of the President

Vimal Chaitanya

From: Faculty Senate Chair,

RE: Proposition 06-25/2 [X] Bill [ ] Resolution [ ] Memorial [ ] Joint Proposition [ ] Other

Date: May 4, 2026

Please find enclosed Faculty Senate Legislation No. 06-25/26 entitled, " approved by the Faculty Senate on March 25, 2026 .

Please Route for Approval:

Table with 2 columns: Faculty Senate Request, Administration Action. Includes checkboxes for review, approval, and acknowledgment, along with signatures and dates for Lakshmi Reddi and Valerio Ferme.

Please return form to: Mari Cisneros, Faculty Senate Recording Secretary, Email: maricis@nmsu.edu / Phone: (575) 646-3417

*Please ensure the proposition is ADA complaint or will be edited for compliance by the Faculty Senate Recording Secretary.*

**Proposition:** 06-25/26

**Proposal Type:** Bill Resolution Memorial Joint Proposition Other  
(If Joint proposition, also select type)

**Title:** Supporting CNM and UNM Joint Resolution Against the "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education"

**Date Submitted:** 1/27/26

**Sponsor(s):** Karen Kopera-Frye (HEST), Christopher Brown (A&S), and others to follow.

**Proposed Committee:** TBD

**Prior Approvals:** N/A

**Proposal:** The sponsors of this bill ask that the Senate review the CNM and UNM Joint Resolution Against the "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education" (Attached), discuss the specifics of the bill, and vote to join this joint resolution.

**Rationale:** Chair Vimal, Vice Chair Brown, and Access, Opportunity, and Outreach Faculty Senate Standing Committee Chair Kopera-Frye were approached by Jennifer Rush (CNM) and Justin Bendell (UNM) about joining a Faculty Senate joint resolution back in December 2025. The joint resolution from Central New Mexico and the University of New Mexico Faculty Senates opposes the "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education" document. Vice Chair Brown and Senator Kopera-Frye met via zoom with the 2 Chairs on 12/12/25. Brown and Kopera-Frye indicated to them that they would bring it to our Access, Opportunity, and Outreach Committee. The Joint Resolution was attached for Members to review on the agenda for this meeting. Of those present, there was a positive response to support it. Brown and Kopera-Frye again met with Justin and Jennifer and a group of Senators from other New Mexico Universities on 1/26/26. They provided an update in that CNM has already passed the resolution, and UNM is working on moving it through their Faculty Senate to pass the resolution. Therefore, the purpose of this Bill is to support our fellow Senators at peer institutions in this joint resolution. We would like NMSU Faculty Senate to join the resolution in the spirit of solidarity. Please see attached Joint Resolution.

## **Joint Resolution of The Central New Mexico Community College Faculty Senate and The University of New Mexico Faculty Senate Opposing the "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education"**

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

**WHEREAS** on October 2, 2025, the Trump administration delivered to nine institutions a "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education,"<sup>1</sup> which makes access to federal funding conditional on the acceptance of government-prescribed institutional policies and practices; and

**WHEREAS** an informal offer to join this "Compact" has been extended to all institutions of higher education in the United States; and

**WHEREAS** the compact demands "institutional neutrality" while also demanding affirmative representation of specific ideological viewpoints and punishing those the Trump administration disagrees with, being thus inconsistent and unenforceable; and

**WHEREAS** the 1967 Kalven Report,<sup>2</sup> a landmark document on institutional neutrality, established that while universities should generally remain neutral on contested public issues, they have a responsibility to speak when their core values are at risk; and

**WHEREAS** the Compact contains provisions antithetical to the core values of our institutions, values which include commitments to inclusion and transparency;<sup>3</sup> and

**WHEREAS** the Compact contains provisions which endanger the independence and integrity of our institutions, and threatens to withhold federal funding if institutions fail to conform; and

**WHEREAS** the *American Association of University Professors* (AAUP) and *American Federation of Teachers* (AFT) have called on all colleges and universities to reject the compact, calling it "preferential treatment . . . in exchange for allegiance to a partisan ideological agenda;"<sup>4</sup> and

**WHEREAS** the Compact, per the legal counsel of AAUP, raises "significant first amendment problems," poses threats to academic freedom, and increases risk of constitutional liability;<sup>5</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Compact-for-Academic-Excellence-in-Higher-Education-10.1.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://provost.uchicago.edu/sites/default/files/documents/reports/KalvenRprt\\_0.pdf](https://provost.uchicago.edu/sites/default/files/documents/reports/KalvenRprt_0.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://opportunity.unm.edu/mission-statement.html>; <https://www.cnm.edu/about-cnm/strategic-plan>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.aaup.org/news/universities-must-reject-trump-admin-loyalty-oath-compacts>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.aaup.org/sites/default/files/2025-10/Letter-AAUP-to-OGC-Compacts.pdf>

**WHEREAS** the Central New Mexico Community College and The University of New Mexico<sup>6</sup> Faculty Senates have already passed resolutions in favor of a Mutual Academic Defense Compact; and

**WHEREAS** Central New Mexico Community College and The University of New Mexico exemplify academic values of the highest standard, including the cultivation and preservation of academic freedom; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Central New Mexico Community College Faculty Senate and the University of New Mexico Faculty Senate firmly oppose the "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education" as written, and call upon campus administrations to also reject this Compact outright as well as any similar proposal compromising the core values and independence of our institutions.

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<sup>6</sup> [https://facgov.unm.edu/senate/resolution\\_to\\_establish\\_mutual\\_academic\\_defense\\_co/](https://facgov.unm.edu/senate/resolution_to_establish_mutual_academic_defense_co/)









# [Proposition 06-25/26] - [Supporting CNM and UNM Joint Resolution Against the Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education] - Transmittal Administrative Action


Final Audit Report


2026-05-06


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## "[Proposition 06-25/26] - [Supporting CNM and UNM Joint Resolution Against the Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education] - Transmittal Administrative Action" History


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