

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

American Legion Auxiliary
New Mexico Girls State
Bill Instruction Sheet

Principal Author: Mary Rivera _____

Bill No: _____ Committee: _____

Status:

Passed by: ☐ Committee ☐ House ☐ Senate ☐ Governor

Tabled by: ☐ Committee ☐ House ☐ Senate ☐ Governor

Other: _____

Simple Title of Bill: Mandatory Anti-bullying Training for Educators

BILL

70TH SESSION – AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE – 2017

INTRODUCED BY

AN ACT

RELATING TO ANTI-BULLYING TRAINING FOR EDUCATION EMPLOYEES; REQUIRING
ALL EDUCATION EMPLOYERS BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING
EMPLOYEES UNDERGO TRAINING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW
MEXICO GIRLS STATE:

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

- A. "administration" refers to any employee who works with students in any way;
- B. "bullying" refers to any use of superior strength or influence to intimidate (someone), typically to force him or her to do what one wants;
- C. "education employers" refers to any supervisor who oversees ten or more employees;
- D. "training" refers to a course for education administration designed to educate about bullying prevention and communication with students.

SECTION 2. MAIN PROVISIONS. – Education employers shall require all employees to participate in a course covering bullying prevention within their first three months of employment. Bullying in and outside of schools has been proven to negatively impact the mental health of students and hinder their productivity in the classroom. Chronic cases of bullying can also lead to suicide, which can be prevented with a healthier schooling environment. No child should feel that the only answer to their problems is suicide, due to the acts of other students or the lack of educated teachers. Anti-bullying training programs have been known to decrease the rate of bullying in schools by educating the administration in handling bullying cases successfully. These programs can also train administration to be a trusted adult for students to communicate with, in regards to their problems. The skills that educators will learn throughout these courses include, but are not limited to, how to deescalate a situation, find out what happened, and support all of the students involved. Having an educated administration will not only make students more confident in their surroundings and with the educators themselves, but it will lead to higher state testing scores, which in turn, could potentially earn the school more funding. With

additional funding, it can be put back into the school to promote additional education practices that are important to the wellbeing of the students. Making this training mandatory for all education administration will lead to a safe and healthy environment for both students and staff.

SECTION 4. PENALTY. – Any employer who fails to require their employees to complete the Anti-bullying course shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,500 per employee.

SECTION 5. REPEAL. - All laws, acts, provisions, or parts of laws contained in the Constitution of the State of New Mexico in conflict with any provision of this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. - This act shall become effective 90 days after its passage and approval by the American Legion Auxiliary New Mexico Girls State Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.

