

American Legion Auxiliary
New Mexico Girls State
Memorial Instruction Sheet



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Memorial No: _____ Committee: _____

Status:

Passed by: ☐ Committee ☐ House ☐ Senate

Tabled by: ☐ Committee ☐ House ☐ Senate

Other: _____

Simple Title of Memorial: Waste Awareness

1 MEMORIAL

2 **70TH SESSION – AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE – 2017**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4

5

6

7 A MEMORIAL

8 Waste Awareness Week

9 WHEREAS, WHEREAS, We have a waste problem, in the United States and in New
10 Mexico. According to the EPA more than 500 billion pounds of waste enter our landfills
11 each year. Paper and paperboard accounted for over 26 percent, and yard trimmings and
12 food accounted for another 28.2 percent. Plastics is about 13 percent. Rubber, leather and
13 textiles accounted for over nine percent; and metals made up nine percent. Wood accounts
14 for over six percent, and glass over four percent. Other miscellaneous wastes made up
15 approximately three percent of the waste generated in 2014; and

1 Whereas,Countries spend anywhere between 20 to 50 of their budgets dealing with
2 waste management. In the United States about 200 billion dollars is spent on solid waste
3 management and lost energy resources from disposing trash;and

4 Whereas, textile waste is a problem because there is no official procedure in
5 place to recycle textile products in the United States. According to the Atlantic, we only
6 recycle fifteen percent of the textiles that are made each year and it costs cities forty five
7 dollars per ton to dispose of old clothing. More importantly, it may take most clothing
8 hundreds of years to decompose in our landfills. Between 1999 and 2000 the waste
9 produced by textiles grew by 40%, and it continues to grow; and

10 Whereas, waste affects our environment,health and economy. By creating a
11 week to raise awareness it will hopefully encourage citizens to reduce, reuse and recycle.
12 In doing so rate of pollution, illness and debt would decrease. During this week composting,
13 textile diversion and education programs will be of easier access.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE that that the first week of
16 July shall be declared waste awareness week

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this week will
18 occur annually for 15 years.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each major
20 should be given this memorial.

