

American Legion Auxiliary
New Mexico Girls State
2016 Bill/Resolution



Committee: Health

Principal Author: Megan Gower

Bill No.: H24 Delegation: ALA NM Girls State 2016

Status: Passed committee but withdrawal by author on House floor

Title of Bill: Save Our Children from Sex Education

1 **Section I. Body:** Sex education has existed in American schools for decades, many
2 state have mandates for that the course must be taught in schools. However, only 13
3 states require the information must be medically accurate, many of whom still do not
4 require that the information be unbiased when taught. Though New Mexico has
5 mandates that sex education must be taught in schools, there are no guidelines to
6 ensure the information is accurate and unbiased. New Mexico has ranked top in the
7 nation in 20110 for teen pregnancy and; has continued to stay at the top of national
8 statistics. Along with teenage pregnancy, New Mexico also ranks in the mid to high
9 percentiles in STD contraction, along with sexual assaults. Some responsibility for
10 these perturbing statistics can easily be placed on the often abstinence focused
11 approach to sex education that the majority of the state takes, which often over
12 exaggerates the instances of failed birth control and hardly speaks of consent, that the
13 majority of the state takes.

14 **Be It Enacted By The American Legion Auxiliary New Mexico Girls State 2016**

15 **Section II. Definitions:** sex education is instruction on issues relating to human
16 sexuality, including emotional relations and responsibilities, human secular anatomy,
17 sexual activity reproductive rights, safe sex and forms of birth control. Medically
18 accurate describes information relating to health and anatomy which has been
19 supported by peer-reviewed research which complies with accepted scientific methods.

20 **Section III. Penalty:** the passage of this bill would mandate that all New Mexico
21 schools teach sex education from an unbiased approach, that provides medically
22 accurate information in the fields of pregnancy and STD prevention, and consent.

23 **Section IV. Repeal:** all laws, acts, provisions, or parts of laws contained in the
24 constitution of the State of New Mexico in conflict with any provision of this act are
25 hereby repealed.

26 **Section V. Effective Date:** the provisions of this act shall be effective on and after
27 August 1, 2017.