

American Legion Auxiliary  
New Mexico Girls State  
**Bill Instruction Sheet**



Principal Author: Kristin Guin

Bill No: 31

Committee: Public Safety

Status:

Passed by:  Committee  House  Senate  Governor

Tabled by:  Committee  House  Senate  Governor

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Simple Title of Bill: Body Cameras for New Mexico Police Officers

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BILL

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**70<sup>TH</sup> SESSION – AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE – 2017**

3

INTRODUCED BY

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FULL TITLE: RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING A BASIS FOR  
5 ANALYSIS IN CRIMINAL CASES; PROTECTING OFFICERS FROM OUTRAGEOUS  
6 CLAIMS; PROTECTING THE PUBLIC FROM ANY CORRUPT ACTIONS; RELAYING  
7 FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE.

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

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12 DEFINITIONS: "Law enforcement" City, county, and state officers  
13 in New Mexico.

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16 MAIN PROVISIONS: SECTION 1. Body Cameras- All of New Mexico law  
17 enforcement is hereby mandated to wear body cameras during any  
18 official business with the public in which an official complaint  
19 has either been called in, relayed to in verbal or non-verbal  
20 actions, or by officer's concern. This will be done for the  
21 purpose of protecting New Mexico officers from unwarranted  
22 lawsuits, protecting the public from hazardous behavior, and the  
23 sole reason of providing positive evidence of an interaction  
24 between law enforcement and the society that it protects.

24

25 PENALTY: Any member of law enforcement that purposely withholds,  
26 deletes, attempts to cover up body camera footage, or  
deliberately does not tape an interaction shall be punished by a

1 fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or by  
2 imprisonment for a definite term not to exceed three years, or  
3 both.

4  
5 APPROPRIATION: The money for the cameras (\$400) will be provided  
6 by the officer's Insurance Company because it will cut back on  
7 false claims, thus saving the corporation money. The officers  
8 will receive their body cameras at no cost to themselves or the  
9 state.

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

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14 The provisions of this act shall be effective on and after January 1, 2018  
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