

American Legion Auxiliary
New Mexico Girls State
Memorial Instruction Sheet



Principal Author: Hailey Armijo

Memorial No: _____ Committee: _____

Status:

Passed by: Committee House Senate

Tabled by: Committee House Senate

Other: _____

Simple Title of Memorial: Rio Grande Preservation Week

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MEMORIAL

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

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INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

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Rio Grande Preservation and Waste Management Week

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WHEREAS, WHEREAS, the Rio Grande is one of the principal rivers in the

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Southwestern United States. The Rio Grande begins in South Central Colorado and flows

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to the Gulf of Mexico. The Rio Grade's total length was 1,896 miles in the late 1980's. The

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Rio Grande is Considered either the fourth-or fifth longest river system in North America.

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Since the mid-20th century heavy water consumption of farms and cities along with many

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large diversion dams on the river has left only twenty percent of its natural discharge to flow

1 to the Gulf. The Rio Grande's watershed covers 182,200 square miles, it's average
2 discharge from Elephant Butte Dam is 178 cubic feet per second; and

3 Whereas, the water of the Rio Grande is of greater quality in the upper parts of the
4 basin, the quality decreases as the water moves downstream. The lower parts of the Rio
5 Grande are struggling with damages from high-saline in the water. Pharmaceuticals, fecal
6 coliform contamination, industrial flow and water borne diseases are all concerns with rapid
7 growth of the southwest population that depend on the Rio Grande. Clean water provided
8 for irrigation helps improve the health of crops as well as the consumers. The Rio Grande is
9 a vital natural resource , and it needs to be take care of; and

10 Whereas, having a preservation week dedicated to cleaning and preserving the
11 Southwestern's natural water source, could help support not only residents of close by
12 areas but crops grown using the Rio Grande's water for irrigation. In 2013, more than 5
13 million gallons of raw sewage spelt into the Rio Grande, this killed many fish and other
14 animals who use this natural resource. The Rio Grande should not be treated as a waste
15 deposit, we can use this river many more way to benefit the Southwestern population of the
16 United States.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
18 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE that that there should be a
19 week where volunteer groups come together and clean up the Rio Grande, visible trash, or
20 invent ways that communities dependent of the Rio Grande can use daily to provide safe
21 water.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rio
24 Grande compact commission , Elephant Butte Lake, and all communities dependent of the
25 Rio Grande revive this memorial.

