

American Legion Auxiliary
New Mexico Girls State
2016 Bill/Resolution



Committee: Animal Rights

Principal Author: Caitlin O'Brien

Bill No.: Senate #?

Delegation: ALA NM Girls State 2016

Status: Passed committee; Failed in the Senate

Title of Bill: Anti Animal Euthanization Bill

1 **Section I. Body:** this bill is created in order to make the euthanization of cats and dogs
2 illegal in the State of New Mexico. The euthanization of animals in our state is an
3 ongoing problem and thousands of innocent cats and dogs are being killed each year
4 because they do not have homes and animal shelters do not have the means to take
5 care of them for long periods of time. In order to reduce the number of dogs being bred
6 each year, it will be against the law to own or operate a puppy mill in the State of New
7 Mexico. The state will offer an incentive program to all pet owners who spay and neuter
8 their pets upon registration. The incentive will be free spay and neutering paid for by
9 the State of New Mexico through a spay and neuter tax, however it will only be free to
10 the owner if they do it at the time of their pet's registration. All cats and dogs should be
11 micro-chipped or tagged in order to keep them out of shelters and safely with their
12 rightful owners. The State of New Mexico will also offer a shelter animal adoption
13 campaign.

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

15 **Section II. Definitions:** Euthanization the act of putting a living being, especially a cat
16 or dog, to death. Puppy Mill – an inhumane commercial dog breeding facility in which
17 the health of the dogs is disregarded in order to maintain a low overhead and maximize
18 profits.

19 **Section III. Penalty** – any individual that euthanizes a cat or dog due to overcrowding
20 of a shelter will be charged with a misdemeanor which would result in 90 days in jail
21 and/or a \$1,000.000 fine. This penalty does not apply to animals who are chronically ill
22 or vicious.

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25 hereby repealed.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** – this act shall become effective immediately upon its
27 passage and approval by the American Legion Auxiliary New Mexico Girls State
28 governor or its otherwise becoming a law.