

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



Principal Author: Allison Cilke

Bill No: 21 Committee: C

Status:

Passed by:  Committee  House  Senate  Governor

Tabled by:  Committee  House  Senate  Governor

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

Simple Title of Bill: Learn to Swim Act

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HOUSE BILL

**72<sup>nd</sup> SESSION – AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE – 2019**

INTRODUCED BY

*Allison Cilke*

AN ACT

RELATING TO SWIMMING; WATER SAFETY; CHILDREN’S EDUCATION; AQUATIC  
HAZARD; FLOAT; SWIM

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. - A. “Aquatic Hazard” is any hazard in or around a body of  
water capable of causing death or serious injury

1 B. "Float" an individuals to ability to remain in a body of water and breathe normally for  
2 a minimum of four minutes without any contact with the bottom or sides of the body of  
3 water and without the assistance of any floating or flotation assistance device.

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5 C. "Swim" an individuals to ability to cross a minimum of 25 yards of a body of water in  
6 less than four minutes without any contact with the bottom or sides of the body of water and  
7 without the assistance of any floating or flotation assistance device.

8 SECTION 2. PROVITIONS. - Thousands of Americans needlessly die from drowning. The  
9 cause of drownings vary but a primary cause is a lack of adequate development services in  
10 teaching children and young adults the dangers of aquatic activities and how to swim.

11  
12 The New Mexico Secretary of Education is authorized and directed to provide financial  
13 assistance to individual school districts for child development programs focused on  
14 teaching children the hazards of aquatic activities and how to float independently and to  
15 swim independently. The Secretary of Education shall develop education standards for  
16 the topics and testing the hazards of aquatic activities and the standards for testing a  
17 child's ability to float and to swim.

18 SECTION 3. PENALTY. -

19 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION. - Five hundred thousand (\$500,000) is appropriated from  
20 the general fund to the New Mexico Department of Education for expenditure in fiscal years  
21 2020 thru 2040 to carry out the provisions of the Learn to Swim Act. Any expended or  
22 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of each fiscal year shall revert to the general  
23 fund

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

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2 The provisions of this act shall be effective on and after The provisions of this act shall be  
3 effective on and after January 1, 2020