

American Legion Auxiliary
New Mexico Girls State
2015 Bill/Resolution



Committee: _____ Principal Author: Arizona B. Furphy
Bill No.: _____ Delegation: _____

Title of Bill: Increase Funding For Education and Mental Health Services by Legalization and Taxation of Marijuana

1 **Section I.:**

2 Relating to funding for public education and mental health services in which the legalization
3 and taxation on the sale of Marijuana will greatly increase tax revenue which can be spent
4 on these necessary services. Decriminalization would also greatly decreased of those in jail or
5 prison for Marijuana charges which in turn will provide an enormous tax relief on the state
6 paying for the incarceration. Whereas, similar law in our neighboring state of Colorado has
7 shown no increase in criminal activity or behavior and has collected millions in taxes from
8 these sales; Whereas of sales on Marijuana would give huge tax benefit; Whereas this tax
9 benefit would help fund public education and fund mental health which is currently ranked
10 among the lowest in the nation; Whereas the majority of inmates being housed in state and
11 local correctional institution are incarcerated for drug related charges. Legalization of
12 Marijuana would lower greatly the amount of people incarcerated for drug charges;
13 Whereas legalization would greatly increase tourism in the state and in turn create more
14 income.

15

16 **Be It Enacted By the American Legion Auxiliary New Mexico Girls State 2014 that:**

17 The sale of marijuana by licensed dispensaries be legalized along with the legalization of
18 possession of marijuana within the state. Additionally that a 20% excise tax be levied on the
19 sale of marijuana and marijuana related goods. This excise tax shall be divided 60% to The
20 Public Education Department and 40% to Department of Health to fund mental health
21 services.

22

23 **Section II.:**

24 The State of New Mexico would legalize the possession and purchase of marijuana by
25 individuals over the age of 21 from a licensed marijuana dispensary. New Mexico will
26 issues licenses to companies for the purpose of the sale of marijuana. Sales of marijuana
27 will be taxed at a 20% excise tax rate. Of the funds collected from the excise taxes
28 collected on the sale of marijuana 60% of the funds generated will go to the Public
29 Education to fund education and 40% to the New Mexico Department of Health for use in
30 treating mental health.

31

32 **Section III.:**

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

35

36 **Section IV.:**

37 This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the American
38 Legion Auxiliary New Mexico Girls State Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.