

The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

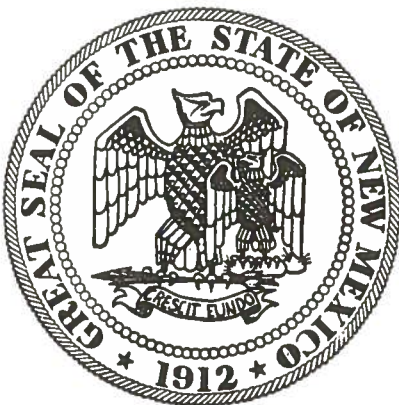
50th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2012

CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 55

Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE RICK MIERA



1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM IN NEW MEXICO
3 AND THE HOSTING OF THE 2012 NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL
4 CHAMPIONSHIP BY THE CENTER FOR CIVIC VALUES, THE STATE BAR OF
5 NEW MEXICO AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO LAW SCHOOL IN
6 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO.

7
8 WHEREAS, the Gene Franchini high school mock trial is an
9 educational initiative for high schools statewide that teaches
10 students about the law, the legal system and civics; and

11 WHEREAS, mock trials are dynamic and rewarding skill-
12 and character-building academic and social experiences for
13 high school students; and

14 WHEREAS, mock trials teach high school participants the
15 lifelong skills of critical thinking, responsible decision-
16 making, considering and advocating both sides of an ethical or
17 legal issue, research, teamwork and public speaking; and

18 WHEREAS, mock trials provide a focused opportunity for
19 high school students to discover their rights and
20 responsibilities and to consider the merits of being on the
21 correct side of the law; and

22 WHEREAS, mock trials provide opportunities for licensed
23 attorneys to give back to the community and to refresh and
24 renew their skills as volunteer mentors to high school
25 students; and

1 WHEREAS, for twenty-five years, the center for civic
2 values has coordinated, facilitated, supported and encouraged
3 the high school mock trial programs in New Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, each year, hundreds of New Mexico high school
5 students and their teacher advisors and attorney coaches spend
6 several weeks researching, studying, preparing and presenting
7 hypothetical courtroom trials that take place in Las Cruces
8 and Albuquerque; and

9 WHEREAS, high school students participating in mock
10 trials may perform the roles of attorneys or witnesses; and

11 WHEREAS, volunteer state and federal court judges and
12 licensed attorneys may serve as presiding judges who make
13 evidentiary rulings or scoring judges who score the
14 performance and presentation of each mock trial attorney or
15 witness during mock trials; and

16 WHEREAS, each March, the top teams advance to the state
17 finals in Albuquerque, with the winner going on to represent
18 the state at the national championship, held each year in a
19 different United States city; and

20 WHEREAS, in May 2012, New Mexico's top team will compete
21 in Albuquerque where the national high school mock trial
22 championship will be hosted by the center for civic values in
23 collaboration with the state bar of New Mexico and the
24 university of New Mexico law school; and

25 WHEREAS, the national high school mock trial

1 championship will draw about six hundred students competing in
2 the championship from other states, South Korea, Guam, the
3 Northern Mariana Islands, Australia and Ireland;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it recognize
6 and wish luck to the New Mexico mock trial teams that will
7 compete in the state mock trial finals and the top New Mexico
8 team that will compete in the 2012 national high school mock
9 trial championship; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a welcome be extended to
11 out-of-town participants in the 2012 national high school mock
12 trial championship; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the house of representatives
14 recognize the twenty-five years of outstanding work by the
15 center for civic values; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the house of representatives
17 recognize the collaboration of the state bar of New Mexico and
18 the university of New Mexico law school in hosting the 2012
19 national high school mock trial championship; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the center for civic values, the state bar of
22 New Mexico, the university of New Mexico law school and the
23 secretary of public education.



BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES