



# HOMework PACKET

## 2021

## 2021 S.T.U.F.F. HOMEWORK

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Students should bring two copies of their completed homework: one to turn in and one to reference throughout the week. Completing the following homework and fully participating during the week is roughly equivalent to .25 high school credit in government. They should bring three copies of their bill.

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- 1. Memorize Isaiah 33:22 using the Bible translation of your choice**
- 2. Research the definitions for the words from Pre-Class Vocabulary (page 4).**
- 3. Fill out the State Political Fact Sheet.**  
Two sources that you can use are the official New Mexico website ([newmexico.gov](http://newmexico.gov)) and the Project Vote Smart website ([votesmart.org](http://votesmart.org)) which has information on elected officials.
- 4. Send a letter to your New Mexico state Senator and New Mexico state Representative. Thank them for their service and ask a couple of thoughtful questions about legislation they are sponsoring or current topics you think are especially important.**
- 5. Write a one-page bill on an issue important to you and relevant to New Mexico. Use the format provided in this homework packet. Bring 3 copies.**

# OPTIONAL HOMEWORK

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Option 1 will allow students to more fully develop their leadership skills and knowledge of government by participating in elections during the week. Options 2 & 3 provide a deeper understanding of government and is one way to earn additional credit toward high school government.

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## 1. Campaign Preparation

- a. You have the option to run for senator or governor.
- b. Components of a campaign
  - i. Create a slogan
  - ii. Prepare a short speech
  - iii. Prepare supplies such as signs or pins
  - iv. Do some research on campaigning to prepare.

2. Read Chapters 2, 6, and 13 of Real Citizenship by Tim Echols before coming to class. Read the rest after class. A digital download is available from the TeenPact store: <https://teenpact.myshopify.com/products/real-citizenship-digital-download?pos=1&sid=cc2c6cc0a&ss=r>

3. Write an Essay on why freedom of speech is an essential part of a free society.

Essays will be read and evaluated by adult reviewers to give your student objective feedback on their thinking and writing.

# PRE-CLASS VOCABULARY

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Research the terms using a dictionary or other reference resources, then define each term in your own words. You are not required to write down the definitions. You just need to understand the word meanings.

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Government

Self-Government

Justice

Liberty

Republic

Democracy

Democratic Republic

Legislative Branch

Executive Branch

Judicial Branch

Checks and Balances

Election

Appointment

Democrat

Republican

Bipartisan

District

Re-district

Gerrymander

Primary Election

General Election

Runoff Election

Grassroots

## STATE POLITICAL FACT SHEET

Research and fill in the blanks. Remember to use state government information rather than federal government information. **All information should be memorized.**

1. My Representative's name is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. My Senator's name is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. There are (#) \_\_\_\_\_ Representatives currently in office in New Mexico.
4. There are (#) \_\_\_\_\_ Senators currently in office in New Mexico.
5. The ratio of Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and vacancies in the House is \_D,\_\_\_\_R,\_\_\_\_I, and\_\_\_\_V.
6. The ratio of Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and vacancies in the Senate is \_D,\_\_\_\_R,\_\_\_\_I, and\_\_\_\_V.
7. NM Governor's name is \_\_\_\_\_.
8. NM Lt. Governor's name is (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_.
9. NM Attorney General's name is \_\_\_\_\_.
10. NM Secretary of State's name is \_\_\_\_\_.
11. NM Chief Justice is \_\_\_\_\_.
12. NM Speaker of the House is \_\_\_\_\_.
13. NM President of the Senate is \_\_\_\_\_.
14. I live in state House District number \_\_\_\_\_.
15. I live in state Senate District number \_\_\_\_\_.
16. There are (#) \_\_\_\_\_ state Supreme Court Justices in New Mexico.
17. Are my state Supreme Court Justices elected or appointed?    Elected    Appointed  
If both, please explain the process. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# SAMPLE LETTER TO SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE

Mail your letters before coming to class. Then bring a copy to class.

123 My Street  
Albuquerque, NM 87111

Senator Don Chavez  
100 State Capital  
Santa Fe, NM 87503

*(It's likely their home address is listed in the directory).*

Dear Senator Chavez,

Thank you for serving our state in the Senate. Our family lives in your district and is praying for you to have wisdom. This year, one issue that is especially important to me is \_\_\_\_\_.

Another idea for your letter:

-Look up legislation your Senator or Representative is sponsoring and explain why you do or do not support the bill. ([nmlegis.gov](http://nmlegis.gov))

Sincerely,

*My name*

(Include your address and you may receive a response)

# SAMPLE BILL

You may write more than one bill. Bring three copies to class.

House Bill 20

**55<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATURE -STATE OF NEW MEXICO – FIRST SESSION, 2021**

INTRODUCED BY

Christine Chandler

AN ACT

RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT; ENACTING THE HEALTHY WORKPLACES ACT;  
PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR EARNED SICK LEAVE; PROVIDING PENALTIES.

AN ACT

RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT; ENACTING THE HEALTHY WORKPLACES ACT;  
PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR EARNED SICK LEAVE; PROVIDING  
PENALTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the "Healthy Workplaces Act".

SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] PURPOSE OF ACT.--The purposes of the Healthy Workplaces Act are to:

A. regulate employee benefits regarding earned sick leave within New Mexico;

B. ensure that all employees in New Mexico can address their own health and safety needs and the health and safety needs of their families by requiring employers to provide a minimum amount of earned sick leave, including leave ....

SECTION 3. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS – As used in the Healthy Workplaces Act:

A. "earned sick leave" means time that is compensated at the same hourly rate and with the same benefits,...

B. "employ" means suffer or permit to work;

Bill #

**1st LEGISLATURE -S.T.U.F.F. – FIRST SESSION, 2021**

INTRODUCED BY

Your Name

**AN ACT to [Action Word] [article] [Object] to  
[Summarize the Solution Specifically]**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** State the new policy in a brief declarative sentence, or in as few sentences as possible.

**SECTION 2.** Define any ambiguous terms inherent in the first section.

**SECTION 3.** Name the government agency that will oversee the enforcement of the bill along with the specific enforcement mechanism.

A. Go into further details if necessary.

B. Go into further details if necessary.

**SECTION 4.** Indicate the implementation date/timeframe.

**SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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