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### 2018 ALA MN Girls State Citizen Taxes/Service Project

Each participant at American Legion Auxiliary Minnesota Girls State arrives at Bethel University as a citizen of a fictional city where she will live, a county and of ALA MN Girls State.

As all good citizens know, by law, we are required to pay taxes to live where we do and those taxes are used for several things that improve our quality of life.

The American Legion Auxiliary is the world's largest women's veterans service organization and part of our mission is to enhance the quality of life for veterans & their families, active military, our communities and for children.

Each year the ALA MN Girls State citizens are asked to contribute to a service project. This year we have decided to use the tax system to complete service projects that will enhance the quality of life for others. For the first time, the citizens of the 2018 session of American Legion Auxiliary Minnesota Girls State will be allowed to pay taxes!

Each ALA MN Girls State participant is being asked to bring the following along with her when she arrives at ALA MN Girls State to do her part and *pay* her taxes.

**City Tax = one non-perishable food item** which will be distributed to a food shelf close to Bethel University.

**County Tax = one non-perishable food item or comfort item** to be sent in care packages to active military serving around the world (see attached list).

**State Tax = .25 (cents) for each pair of shoes the participant brings** to ALA MN Girls State. The money collected will go towards the postage of mailing the care packages.

**Property Tax = one USPS first class postage stamp** that will be used to send a thank you note to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit who sponsored her to attend ALA MN Girls State.

**These items are not a requirement to attend.** We ask that each girl participate as she is able. It will be a fun way learn about paying taxes and show how paying (some) taxes improve the quality of life for those in our communities.

Patti Coleman  
Girls State Chairman

Peggy Tesdahl  
Girls State Director

Amelia Tesdahl  
Girls State Edu Director

Zandra Kessler  
Girls State Committee Member

Sally Strasser  
Girls State Committee Member

Joanie Krantz  
Americanism Chairman

### Items for Military Care Packages

Paperback books	Lotion
Current Magazines	Tooth Brush
Word puzzle books	Toothpaste
Foam football/basketball	Dental floss
Frizbee	Cotton swabs
Hacky Sacks	Shaving lotion
Playing cards	Individual packaged tissues
Disposable Camera	Individual packaged baby wipes
Powdered Drink Mixes (lemonade, punch)	Eye drops
Seasoned salt	Lip balm
Individual packets of condiments (ketchup, mustard, relish, hot sauce)	
Energy Bars	Aspirin/pain relievers
Tuna	Feminine hygiene products
Beef Jerkey	Cotton socks
Beef summer sausage	Cotton underwear
Snack cakes	small plastic ziplock bags
Candy (not chocolate)	Cocoa
Individual size cookies, cheese & crackers, chips, pretzels, nuts (in hard containers)	
Gum	
Instant Coffee	
Tea bags	
Individual creamer	
Travel size personal care products- no aerosol cans	