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NEWS RELEASE

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Governor Addresses American Legion Girls State; Says Woment Who Strive Hard Set an Example for Others

Gov. Christie Whitman today told participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Program that by being the best they can be, women can set an example for others to follow.

"It is an honor to be our state's first female governor, but it isn't always easy," the Governor said. "I know that many women, young and old look to me as a role model. Everything I do, every decision I make, and every word I say, is scrutinized."

"It is both an honor and a responsibility to be a female first," she said. "Persons must always remember that someone - a sister, a friend or a person unknown to them may be looking up to them."

"Whether a woman becomes a first, or strives to be the best she can, she will set an example for others to follow. By simply embarking on this journey, women will make a difference and the impact will be felt by many," Gov. Whitman said.

Girls State, begun by the American Legion Auxiliary in 1937, is held every year and provides girls with "hands on" experience in state government. The program targets young women interested in the process of government. In New Jersey, 472 outstanding high school students are participating.

