

**2021 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Members

Rep. Harry Garcia, Co-Chair
Sen. Harold Pope, Co-Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Sen. Craig W. Brandt

Sen. Brenda G. McKenna
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana
Rep. Luis M. Terrazas

Advisory Members

Rep. Rachel A. Black
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Randal S. Crowder
Rep. Meredith A. Dixon
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson

Rep. Stefani Lord
Sen. Michael Padilla
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert
Rep. G. Andrés Romero

Work Plan

The Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee was first created by statute for the 2009 interim. The committee was permanently reauthorized by statute during the 2010 regular legislative session. The committee has various statutory duties, including making an annual report; recommending any necessary legislation to the next session of the legislature; and requesting necessary action to the United States Congress, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and the United States Department of Defense. The committee is required to conduct meetings in several geographically dispersed areas of the state and to conduct hearings relating to military issues and veterans' issues.

During the 2021 interim, as time permits, the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee will:

1. receive updates from New Mexico's military installations;
2. study issues relating to female veterans;
3. receive updates regarding college credit for military service from the Higher Education Department and the Veterans' Services Department;
4. receive testimony regarding jobs and business opportunities for veterans;
5. study long-term care options for veterans;
6. study transportation to and from medical providers for veterans, particularly those living in rural areas of the state;

7. receive testimony pertaining to education opportunities and outreach offered by state educational institutions and public community colleges to veteran students;

8. examine options for the prevention of homelessness and support for homeless veterans in areas throughout the state;

9. receive testimony regarding health care options both within the Veterans Administration system and outside of it;

10. examine actions New Mexico can take to improve quality of life for military and veteran families;

11. study the creation of veterans' courts in various judicial districts in New Mexico;

12. examine issues relating to New Mexico's active duty, reserve and National Guard military personnel, veterans and military families; and

13. examine various issues relating to veterans and taxes.

**Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee
2021 Approved Meeting Schedule**

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| June 16 | Video Conference |
| July 12-13 | Las Vegas |
| August 19-20 | Truth or Consequences |
| September 14 | Grants |
| October 22 | Santa Fe |