

1 HOUSE BILL 158
2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

3 INTRODUCED BY
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10 AN ACT
11 RELATING TO MILITARY BASES; ENACTING THE MILITARY BASE PLANNING
12 AND IMPACT ACT; CREATING THE MILITARY BASE IMPACT FUND;
13 PROVIDING FOR GRANTS TO DEFENSE COMMUNITIES; ESTABLISHING
14 PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS; REQUIRING REPORTS; AMENDING,
15 REPEALING, ENACTING AND RECOMPILING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 9,
16 ARTICLE 15 NMSA 1978; REPEALING THE SUNSET FOR THE OFFICE OF
17 MILITARY BASE PLANNING AND SUPPORT AND THE MILITARY BASE
18 PLANNING COMMISSION; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.
19

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

21 SECTION 1. A new Section 9-15-60 NMSA 1978 is enacted to
22 read:

23 "9-15-60. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--Sections 9-15-60
24 through 9-15-66 may be referred to as the "Military Base
25 Planning and Impact Act"."

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1 SECTION 2. A new Section 9-15-61 NMSA 1978 is enacted to
2 read:

3 "9-15-61. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the
4 Military Base Planning and Impact Act:

5 A. "commission" means the military base planning
6 commission;

7 B. "defense community" means a political
8 subdivision, including a municipality, county or special
9 district, that encompasses a portion of or is within a
10 forty-five-minute commute of a United States military base or
11 defense facility;

12 C. "defense worker" means:

13 (1) an employee of the United States
14 department of defense, including armed forces personnel and
15 civilian workers;

16 (2) an employee of a government agency or
17 private business or organization providing a United States
18 department of defense-related function who is employed at a
19 military facility;

20 (3) an employee of a business that directly
21 provides services or products to the United States department
22 of defense and whose job is directly dependent on defense
23 expenditures; or

24 (4) an employee of the United States
25 department of energy or an employee or a contractor for the

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1 United States department of energy working at a defense or
2 United States department of energy facility in support of a
3 department of defense-related project;

4 D. "defense worker job" means a permanent position
5 authorized by the United States department of defense or a
6 position held or occupied by one or more defense workers for
7 more than twelve months;

8 E. "department" means the economic development
9 department;

10 F. "fund" means the military base impact fund;

11 G. "military facility" includes military bases and
12 research and training facilities owned or operated or under
13 contract by the United States department of defense; and

14 H. "military office" means the office of military
15 base planning and support."

16 SECTION 3. Section 9-15-50 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
17 Chapter 166, Section 3 and Laws 2003, Chapter 170, Section 3)
18 is recompiled as Section 9-15-64 NMSA 1978 and is amended to
19 read:

20 "9-15-64. DUTIES.--The [~~military base planning~~]
21 commission shall:

22 A. obtain and evaluate information about the
23 federal government's considerations, plans, policies and
24 initiatives relating to military base realignment and closure;

25 B. obtain and evaluate information relating to the

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1 impact of federal military base realignment and closure plans
2 on the state's economy and the military base area's local
3 economy;

4 C. work with and provide assistance to established
5 community organizations that have as their purpose the support
6 of the long-term viability of the military bases in their local
7 area;

8 D. ensure collaboration among the community
9 organizations described in Subsection C of this section and an
10 understanding of the joint efforts between the military bases
11 in the state;

12 E. work with and provide assistance to the state's
13 congressional delegation on matters relating to federal base
14 realignment and closure plans; ~~and~~

15 F. advise the governor on measures necessary to
16 ensure the continued presence of military bases in the state;

17 G. advise the military office concerning the
18 development of a grant program and make recommendations for
19 grant awards from the fund; and

20 H. adopt rules regarding:

21 (1) the administration of grants from the
22 fund. The rules shall include the application procedure,
23 required qualifications for projects and purposes for which the
24 grants may be used; and

25 (2) the forty-five-minute commute boundary for

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1 each military base in New Mexico."

2 SECTION 4. A new Section 9-15-65 NMSA 1978 is enacted to
3 read:

4 "9-15-65. [NEW MATERIAL] MILITARY BASE IMPACT FUND
5 CREATED--GRANTS--REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS.--

6 A. The "military base impact fund" is created as a
7 nonreverting fund in the state treasury. The fund consists of
8 appropriations, gifts, grants and donations. The department
9 shall administer the fund, and money in the fund is
10 appropriated to the military office to provide assistance for
11 infrastructure projects to defense communities impacted by
12 realignment or potential realignment of defense worker jobs or
13 United States military facilities. Disbursements from the fund
14 shall be made by warrant of the secretary of finance and
15 administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the director of
16 the military office.

17 B. The military office shall implement a grant
18 program for infrastructure projects to:

19 (1) accommodate or leverage, for the benefit
20 of a defense community, an anticipated expansion of a military
21 facility or employment of defense workers at a military
22 facility or the retention of a military facility or employment
23 of defense workers at a military facility;

24 (2) increase the potential to retain a
25 military facility anticipated to be closed or a military

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1 mission that is anticipated to be relocated in a realignment
2 process initiated by the federal government;

3 (3) facilitate the recruitment of a new
4 military mission or other defense worker employer at a military
5 facility to replace a mission or an employer that is being or
6 is anticipated to be closed, reduced or relocated; or

7 (4) stimulate the development or recruitment
8 of private or public sector employers to replace an actual or
9 anticipated reduction in defense worker jobs due to a closure,
10 reduction or relocation of a military base or defense worker
11 employer.

12 C. When approving grants from the fund, the
13 military office shall give consideration to:

14 (1) the impact a project will have on the job
15 market in the applicable defense community;

16 (2) the extent to which the applicable defense
17 community has used its own resources to promote local economic
18 development;

19 (3) the probability that the project will
20 result in the:

21 (a) expansion of a military facility;

22 (b) retention of a military facility
23 that is at risk of being closed or relocated; or

24 (c) recruitment of a military or other
25 employer to replace the loss or anticipated loss of an existing

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1 military employer; and

2 (4) the amount of federal or other financial
3 assistance that will be leveraged by the grant for the project.

4 D. A recipient of a grant from the fund shall be
5 either a defense community or a regional planning organization
6 organized under the Regional Planning Act that has a defense
7 community within its planning region.

8 E. A grant from the fund may be made for project
9 construction, planning and design or purchase of interests in
10 land for new facilities or rehabilitation or renovation of
11 existing facilities; provided that a grant shall be no greater
12 than the lesser of ninety percent of the total cost of the
13 project or ninety percent of a matching requirement from a
14 federal or other nonstate funding source.

15 F. An applicant for a grant from the fund shall
16 provide proof satisfactory to the military office that it can
17 and will meet its cost-share requirements pursuant to this
18 section.

19 G. Total annual grants from the fund shall not
20 exceed four million dollars (\$4,000,000), and no single
21 recipient project shall receive more than two million dollars
22 (\$2,000,000)."

23 SECTION 5. A new Section 9-15-66 NMSA 1978 is enacted to
24 read:

25 "9-15-66. [NEW MATERIAL] REPORTS.--On or before November

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1 30, 2025, and on or before November 30 in each subsequent year,
2 the military office shall provide a report to the governor and
3 to the interim legislative committee tasked with examining
4 economic development issues on the status of the fund, the
5 projects that have received grants and rates of success of the
6 grantees in achieving the goals for which the grants were
7 made."

8 SECTION 6. TEMPORARY PROVISION--RECOMPILATION.--Sections
9 9-15-48 and 9-15-49 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 166,
10 Section 1 and Laws 2003, Chapter 170, Section 1; and Laws 2003,
11 Chapter 166, Section 2 and Laws 2003, Chapter 170, Section 2,
12 as amended) are recompiled as Sections 9-15-62 and 9-15-63 NMSA
13 1978.

14 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION.--Twelve million dollars
15 (\$12,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
16 military base impact fund for expenditure in fiscal year 2026
17 and subsequent fiscal years for the purposes of the fund. Any
18 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a
19 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

20 SECTION 8. REPEAL.--Section 9-15-51.1 NMSA 1978 (being
21 Laws 2021, Chapter 50, Section 1) is repealed.