

HOUSE LABOR, VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL 158

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

AN ACT

RELATING TO MILITARY BASES; ENACTING THE MILITARY BASE PLANNING
AND IMPACT ACT; CREATING THE MILITARY BASE IMPACT FUND;
PROVIDING FOR GRANTS TO DEFENSE COMMUNITIES; ESTABLISHING
PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS; REQUIRING REPORTS; AMENDING,
REPEALING, ENACTING AND RECOMPILING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 9,
ARTICLE 15 NMSA 1978; REPEALING THE SUNSET FOR THE OFFICE OF
MILITARY BASE PLANNING AND SUPPORT AND THE MILITARY BASE
PLANNING COMMISSION; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

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

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

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

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underscored material = new
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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 service
10 area of a United States military base or defense facility;

11 C. "defense worker" means:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 "9-15-64. DUTIES.--The [~~military base planning~~]
20 commission shall:

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

25 B. obtain and evaluate information relating to the

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

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 service area boundary for each

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1 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. Disbursements
12 from the fund shall be made by warrant of the secretary of
13 finance and administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the
14 director of the military office.

15 B. The military office shall implement a grant
16 program for infrastructure projects to:

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

22 (2) increase the potential to retain a
23 military facility anticipated to be closed or a military
24 mission that is anticipated to be relocated in a realignment
25 process initiated by the federal government;

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

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

10 C. A recipient of a grant from the fund shall be
11 either a defense community or a regional planning organization
12 organized under the Regional Planning Act that has a defense
13 community within its planning region.

14 D. A grant from the fund may be made for project
15 construction, planning and design or purchase of interests in
16 land for new facilities or rehabilitation or renovation of
17 existing facilities; provided that a grant shall be no greater
18 than the lesser of ninety percent of the total cost of the
19 project or ninety percent of a matching requirement from a
20 federal or other nonstate funding source.

21 E. An applicant for a grant from the fund shall
22 provide proof satisfactory to the military office that it can
23 and will meet its cost-share requirements pursuant to this
24 section."

25 SECTION 5. A new Section 9-15-66 NMSA 1978 is enacted to

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1 read:

2 "9-15-66. [NEW MATERIAL] REPORTS.--On or before November
3 30, 2025, and on or before November 30 in each subsequent year,
4 the military office shall provide a report to the governor and
5 to the interim legislative committee tasked with examining
6 economic development issues on the status of the fund, the
7 projects that have received grants and rates of success of the
8 grantees in achieving the goals for which the grants were
9 made."

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

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

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