

HOUSE BILL 177

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

Alan T. Martinez and Mark Duncan and Rebecca Dow
and Cynthia Borrego and D. Wonda Johnson

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO
CONTRACT FOR SERVICES FOR THE SHELTER AND CARE OF SERVICE AND
COMPANION ANIMALS AND TO SUPPORT VETERANS ACCESSING
HOMELESSNESS SERVICES OR MEDICAL CARE THAT REQUIRES TEMPORARY
SEPARATION FROM THE VETERANS' ANIMALS.

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

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.--One hundred fifty thousand
dollars (\$150,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
veterans' services department for expenditure in fiscal years
2026 and 2027 to contract for services to ensure safe, humane
and consistent care for service and companion animals,
including animal boarding and veterinary care; establish
kennels at facilities primarily housing veterans; and provide
pet food for service or companion animals that assist or

.233287.2

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 benefit veterans' well-being to reduce barriers to shelter
2 access, housing stability and supportive services. Any
3 unexpended balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2027
4 shall revert to the general fund.

5 - 2 -
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

.233287.2