

**2023 PROPOSED
WORK PLAN, MEETING SCHEDULE AND BUDGET
for the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Members

Rep. Harry Garcia, Chair
Sen. Harold Pope, Vice Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Rep. Art De La Cruz

Sen. Brenda G. McKenna
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez
Rep. Luis M. Terrazas

Advisory Members

Rep. John Block
Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Meredith A. Dixon
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Rep. Stefani Lord

Rep. Alan T. Martinez
Sen. Michael Padilla
Rep. Andrea Reeb
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana
Rep. Harlan Vincent

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 2023 interim, as time permits, the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee will:

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

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

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

I. receive testimony regarding health care options both within the Veterans Administration system and outside of it, including behavioral health care, suicide prevention and treatment for posttraumatic stress disorder;

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

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

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

M. examine various issues relating to veterans and taxes;

N. examine the issue of the inspection of public records for military records;

O. examine housing issues near New Mexico's military installations; and

P. receive testimony from the Veterans' Services Department to better define the needs of the department.

**Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee
2023 Proposed Meeting Schedule and Budget**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Voting</u>	<u>Advisory</u>
June 8	Santa Fe	\$ 1,626*	\$ 1,175*
July 6	Angel Fire	5,685	7,581
September 6	Albuquerque	2,894	4,687
October 2	Truth or Consequences**	4,928	7,210
November 6-7	Santa Fe	<u>5,810</u>	<u>7,474</u>
	Totals	\$20,943	\$28,127

*Actual Expenditure

**Meetings outside the State Capitol after September 30 require New Mexico Legislative Council approval.