



NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE

**MILITARY AND
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE**

2024 INTERIM FINAL REPORT

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE
411 STATE CAPITOL
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 986-4600
WWW.NMLEGIS.GOV

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTERIM SUMMARY

WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE

AGENDAS AND MINUTES

INTERIM SUMMARY

Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee 2024 Interim Summary

The Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee (MVAC) was created by statute for the 2009 interim and was permanently reauthorized during the Forty-Ninth Legislature, Second Session. Pursuant to Section 2-20-2 NMSA 1978, the MVAC holds meetings related to military and veterans' issues in several geographically dispersed areas of the state. The MVAC is also tasked with making legislative recommendations to the legislature and regulatory recommendations to the United States Congress, United States Department of Veterans Affairs and United States Department of Defense (DOD).

The MVAC held three meetings during the 2024 interim: one each in Santa Fe, Santa Rosa and Alamogordo. The June meeting included a presentation from the New Mexico National Guard, and MVAC members discussed the committee's work plan for the 2024 interim. Throughout the interim, the MVAC heard from various military bases from across the state, including Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), Cannon AFB and Holloman AFB. Additionally, the committee received a presentation regarding the White Sands Missile Range, which included updates related to nuclear and dynamic testing.

The MVAC received updates from state agencies and local programs that deal with veterans' issues, such as the Veterans' Services Department, the Defense-State Liaison Office of the United States DOD, The Food Depot and Roadrunner Food Bank. Some of the main topics discussed by the committee included job growth through military installations; the importance of kindergarten through twelfth grade educational opportunities for military families, including improving the process of special education transfers for military students; and establishing better food distribution programming near military bases. Additional issues addressed throughout the interim included: recreational therapy programs designed for veterans; the status of state veteran cemeteries; and the work being done to provide housing for veterans and their families.

WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE

2024 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
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 2024 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 education 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. examine issues related to fees for veteran admission to state parks;

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; and

N. examine housing issues near New Mexico's military installations.

**Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee
2024 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 17	Santa Fe
September 3	Santa Rosa
October 7	Alamogordo
November 8	Santa Fe

AGENDAS AND MINUTES

Revised: June 10, 2024

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
FIRST MEETING
of the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**June 17, 2024
State Capitol, Room 307
Santa Fe**

Monday, June 17

- 10:00 a.m. (1) [New Mexico National Guard](#)
—Brigadier General Miguel Aguilar, Adjutant General, New Mexico
National Guard
- 11:00 a.m. (2) [2024 Work Plan, Meeting Schedule and Itinerary](#)
—Committee Members
- 12:00 noon **Adjourn**

**MINUTES
of the
FIRST MEETING
of the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**June 17, 2024
State Capitol, Room 307
Santa Fe**

The first meeting of the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee was called to order by Representative Harry Garcia, chair, on June 17, 2024 at 10:05 a.m. in Room 307 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

Present

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

Absent

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

Advisory Members

Rep. John Block
Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Rep. Stefani Lord
Rep. Alan T. Martinez
Sen. Michael Padilla
Rep. Andrea Reeb
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana

Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Meredith A. Dixon
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Rep. Harlan Vincent

Guest Legislators

Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Sen. Linda M. López

Staff

Jeret Fleetwood, Project Coordinator, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Domenica Nieto, Research Assistant, LCS

Guests

The guest list in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Monday, June 17

Welcome and Introductions (10:05 a.m.)

Representative Garcia welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

New Mexico National Guard (10:08 a.m.)

Major General Miguel Aguilar, adjutant general, New Mexico National Guard, and acting secretary, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department, introduced staff of the Department of Military Affairs. He presented information on how the New Mexico National Guard recruits youth to join the National Guard through its Youth ChalleNGe Academy and discussed appropriation requests for fiscal year 2026. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=MVAC&Date=6/17/2024&ItemNumber=1>.

2024 Work Plan, Meeting Schedule and Itinerary (11:41 a.m.)

Committee members discussed and made changes to the 2024 proposed interim work plan and meeting schedule. The approved work plan and meeting schedule can be found here:

https://www.nmlegis.gov/Publications/Work_Plans/MVACworkplan24.pdf.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Revised: August 30, 2024

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
SECOND MEETING
of the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**September 3, 2024
David J. Flores Veterans Center
720 Lake Drive
Santa Rosa**

Tuesday, September 3

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
- 10:15 a.m. (1) [**Veterans' Services Department Update**](#)
—Edward Mendez, Director, State Benefits Division, Veterans' Services
Department
- 11:00 a.m. (2) [**New Mexico Veteran Leadership Council**](#)
—Martin Gallegos
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:15 p.m. (3) [**Veterans Integration Centers and Veteran Homelessness**](#)
—Brock Wolff, Chief Executive Officer, Veterans Integration Centers
- 2:00 p.m. (4) [**The United States Department of Defense's Defense-State Liaison
Office**](#)
—Kelli May Douglas, Pacific Southwest Regional Liaison, Defense-State
Liaison Office, United States Department of Defense
- 2:45 p.m. (5) [**Military Base Planning Commission**](#)
—Paul Cassidy, Vice Chair, Military Base Planning Commission
—Kirtland Partnership Committee
- 3:30 p.m. (6) [**Cannon Air Force Base Update**](#)
—Colonel Robert Johnston, Commander, 27th Special Operations Wing,
Cannon Air Force Base
—Mike Morris, Mayor, City of Clovis
- 4:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

**MINUTES
of the
SECOND MEETING
of the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**September 3, 2024
David J. Flores Veterans Center
720 Lake Drive
Santa Rosa**

The second meeting of the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee was called to order by Representative Harry Garcia, chair, on September 3, 2024 at 10:05 a.m. at the David J. Flores Veterans Center in Santa Rosa.

Present

Rep. Harry Garcia, Chair
Sen. Harold Pope, Vice Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Rep. Art De La Cruz
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Rep. Luis M. Terrazas

Absent

Sen. Brenda G. McKenna
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez

Advisory Members

Rep. John Block
Rep. Alan T. Martinez
Rep. Andrea Reeb
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana

Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Meredith A. Dixon
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Rep. Stefani Lord
Sen. Michael Padilla
Rep. Harlan Vincent

Staff

Jeret Fleetwood, Project Coordinator, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Domenica Nieto, Research Assistant, LCS

Guests

The guest list in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the

"Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Tuesday, September 3

Welcome and Introductions (10:05 a.m.)

Representative Garcia welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

David J. Flores Veterans Center (10:15 a.m.)

Andrew Sanchez, director, David J. Flores Veterans Center, welcomed the committee and provided information on the veterans center. Sergeant Major Lloyd Griego provided insight into Santa Rosa's involvement with the veterans center and discussed how financial assistance from the legislature would allow for enhancements to the center. Former State Representative George Dodge, Jr., discussed the transition of the center from being a hospital and recognized Representative Alan T. Martinez's involvement with the creation of the center. Former Representative Dodge invited the committee to tour the center's museum and Wall of Honor.

Veterans Services' Department (VSD) Update (10:36 a.m.)

Brigadier General Jamison Herrera, secretary, VSD, and Edward Mendez, director, State Benefits Division, VSD, provided updates. Brigadier General Herrera discussed the status of state veteran cemeteries, which includes building a fourth cemetery in Carlsbad and community shelters at the Angel Fire State Veteran Cemetery for winter services, and he mentioned the work that the VSD has done to upgrade the veterans service officers (VSOs), placing them into a social worker job classification, which allows them to be paid as much as or more than federal VSOs. Additionally, the VSD has upgraded and reclassified cemetery staff positions to more accurately reflect the cost of living and assist with retention.

New Mexico Veteran Leadership Council (11:23 a.m.)

Martin Gallegos, representative for the New Mexico Veteran Leadership Council, discussed an initiative that is being worked on at the national level that involves those who employ National Guard members, especially during deployment. The federal RECRUIT Act of 2021, which did not pass, would have provided relief for employers through a tax incentive. The initiative is continuing with the current Congress. He provided examples of federal and state legislation to the committee. He additionally stated that the New Mexico National Guard is struggling with recruitment partly due to the enactment of the Opportunity Scholarship Act in 2022, which took away the New Mexico National Guard's primary recruitment tool. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=MVAC&Date=9/3/2024&ItemNumber=2>.

Veterans Integration Centers and Veteran Homelessness (1:00 p.m.)

Brock Wolff, chief executive officer, Veterans Integration Centers (VIC), discussed how the VIC will be moving veterans into a new campus on September 23, 2024 that is able to house up to 42 veterans and their families. He also discussed the difficulty of obtaining the capital

outlay money that the VIC was awarded in 2023 to purchase specific needs, such as furniture. Additionally, Mr. Wolff spoke on the second phase of the new campus. This phase will bring all of the agency into one facility, providing more resources for veterans and their families.

Military Base Planning Commission (1:22 p.m.)

Paul Cassidy, vice chair, Military Base Planning Commission, provided information on the mission of the planning commission, which is to keep the governor informed on issues relating to various military bases. Additionally, the commission works closely with New Mexico's congressional delegation. Mr. Cassidy discussed the funding that the state has received from the United States Department of Defense (DOD) and how the commission has used the funding. He said that military installations across the state contribute more than 52,000 jobs, \$2.8 billion in annual labor income and \$14 billion in economic activity. The DOD and the United States Air Force have generated report cards to compare how different states are treating military families to aid in retention, describing that it is used as a tool to award new missions to communities. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=MVAC&Date=9/3/2024&ItemNumber=5>.

The DOD's Defense-State Liaison Office (1:34 p.m.)

Kelli May Douglas, Pacific Southwest regional liaison, Defense-State Liaison Office, DOD, discussed working with state policymakers on solutions focused on military families. Ms. Douglas emphasized the importance of K-12 education and licensure for military families, highlighting that since 2012, the office has helped pass 1,275 pieces of related legislation or policy in various states, many of which have been passed in New Mexico. She spoke about interstate licensing compacts and the benefits they would provide not only for military spouses but for others, as well. Ms. Douglas discussed interpersonal violence, such as domestic violence, that may occur within the military and how military protective orders can be used as evidence. Additionally, Ms. Douglas spoke about the struggles that occur with special education transfers for military students. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=MVAC&Date=9/3/2024&ItemNumber=4>.

Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB) (2:13 p.m.)

Colonel Michael J. Power, commander, 377th Air Base Wing, and installation commander, Kirtland AFB, and Colonel Jason K. Okumura, commander, 377th Mission Support Group, Kirtland AFB, discussed the strengths and weaknesses they encounter within the community. Specifically, the colonels discussed the Air Force Exceptional Family Member Plan, which provides support to military family members, including those with special needs. Colonel Power stated that there is a 25% rejection rate from the Exceptional Family Member Plan for families moving to Albuquerque due to lack of resources. Colonel Okumura then spoke about the success of House Bill 302 (2024), which translated into military ratings, allowing for more successful recruitment. Additionally, Colonel Okumura referenced the difficulties the base has with supporting new military families who may have specific needs that Kirtland or

Albuquerque may not have the resources to provide, specifically in regard to education for young children.

Representative Sariñana made a motion to write a letter to the Public Education Department in reference to the Purple Star School Program. Representative Alcon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes (2:32 p.m.)

On a motion made, seconded and approved, the committee adopted the minutes of the June 17, 2024 meeting.

Kirtland Partnership Committee (2:34 p.m.)

Megan DeLaRosa, interim executive director, Kirtland Partnership Committee, discussed the role of the committee in supporting, preserving and growing Kirtland AFB and the committee's successes. The committee received funding during the 2024 legislative session that is now being used on a development named MaxQ@Kirtland. She discussed a United States Air Force air tanker base that became operational in April that was able to distribute water for the Ruidoso fires. Additionally, Ms. DeLaRosa mentioned that the Kirtland Partnership Committee hosts the Kirtland Community Sustainability Committee, which works with Bernalillo County, the state, Cibola National Forest and others. She emphasized the importance of the report cards previously mentioned by Mr. Cassidy, on which the DOD is now basing decisions in regard to quality of life issues. Child care efforts are another focus of the committee, having worked with Central New Mexico Community College and the City of Albuquerque to host a child care fair to enhance child care services for the Kirtland community. Ms. DeLaRosa also spoke about opening a child care facility at Kirtland AFB.

Cannon AFB Update (2:43 p.m.)

Colonel Robert Johnston, commander, 27th Special Operations Wing, Cannon Air Force Base, and Mike Morris, mayor, City of Clovis, presented on project updates, upcoming legislation and economic growth in relation to Cannon AFB. Mayor Morris began by discussing the Armed Forces Support Committee, which had not been active for years, that he brought back to Cannon AFB. That committee brings governing bodies together to provide quarterly reports and updates about Cannon AFB. He discussed proposed legislation that would create a grant program for defense communities in the state.

Colonel Johnston discussed initiatives such as the Sentinel Landscape Project and emphasized that the base is working closely with eastern New Mexico communities. Due to a lack of specialty medical care, four out of every 10 airmen who receive orders to Cannon AFB are denied. Therefore, Colonel Johnston discussed current initiatives to enhance the availability of specialty medical care. Mayor Morris discussed additional funding that Cannon AFB could use through a grant program. Additionally, the colonel discussed the Sendero housing project, an off-base apartment complex that only houses airmen.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Revised: October 2, 2024

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
THIRD MEETING
of the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**October 7, 2024
New Mexico Museum of Space History
3198 State Route 2001
Alamogordo**

Monday, October 7

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions**
- 10:15 a.m. (1) **[Healing America's Heroes](#)**
—Eddie Crain, Founder, Healing America's Heroes
- 11:00 a.m. (2) **[White Sands Missile Range Update](#)**
—Colonel Matthew Johnson, Commander, White Sands Test Center
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. (3) **[Hunger Among New Mexico Military and Veterans](#)**
—Jill Dixon, Executive Director, The Food Depot
—Katy Anderson, Vice President, Strategy, Partnerships and Advocacy,
Roadrunner Food Bank
- 2:30 p.m. (4) **[Holloman Air Force Base Update](#)**
—Colonel Alfred Rosales, Deputy Commander, 49th Wing, Holloman Air
Force Base
- 3:30 p.m. (5) **[Disabled Veterans Corporation \(Invited\)](#)**
- 4:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

**MINUTES
of the
THIRD MEETING
of the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**October 7, 2024
New Mexico Museum of Space History
3198 State Route 2001
Alamogordo**

The third and final meeting of the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee was called to order by Representative Harry Garcia, chair, on October 7, 2024 at 10:16 a.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Space History in Alamogordo.

Present

Rep. Harry Garcia, Chair
Sen. Harold Pope, Vice Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Rep. Art De La Cruz
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Rep. Luis M. Terrazas

Absent

Sen. Brenda G. McKenna
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez

Advisory Members

Rep. John Block
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana

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. Harlan Vincent

Staff

Jeret Fleetwood, Project Coordinator, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Erin Bond, Researcher, LCS

Minutes Approval

Because the committee will not meet again this year, the minutes for this meeting have not been officially approved by the committee.

Guests

The guest list in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Monday, October 7

Welcome and Introductions (10:16 a.m.)

Representative Garcia welcomed the committee. Members of the committee introduced themselves. Billy Jones, acting director, New Mexico Museum of Space History, welcomed the committee and thanked the International Space Hall of Fame Foundation for its help with the meeting. Johnny Powell, president and chief executive officer, International Space Hall of Fame Foundation, discussed the history of and plans for the museum. Mr. Powell noted the foundation's work with Holloman Air Force Base (HAFB) and the United States Department of Defense STARBASE program to offer science, technology, engineering and mathematics education to fifth grade students in the Tularosa Basin.

Healing America's Heroes (10:27 a.m.)

Eddie Crain, founder, Healing America's Heroes, introduced himself and discussed the history of the organization, which was founded in 2014 and was located in Tierra Amarilla until 2020. Mr. Crain spoke about the organization's recreational therapy programs that are specifically designed for veterans, but he noted that the recent fires in Ruidoso damaged the property, and creative adjustments will be needed. He also discussed his organization's work with the Veterans' Services Department pertaining to remote programs throughout the state.

White Sands Missile Range Update (10:57 a.m.)

Colonel Matthew Johnson, commander, White Sands Test Center, provided insight into the work done at the White Sands Missile Range. Colonel Johnson mentioned that the missile range is located on 2.2 million acres in southern New Mexico and is the only ground-based open air range of the United States Department of Defense. He discussed the work done at the missile range as it relates to nuclear and dynamic testing. He also discussed the missile range's relationship with nearby areas such as Las Cruces, Alamogordo and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and Spaceport America facilities pertaining to testing.

Hunger Among New Mexico Military and Veterans (1:10 p.m.)

Jill Dixon, executive director, The Food Depot, and Katy Anderson, vice president, Strategy, Partnerships and Advocacy, Roadrunner Food Bank, introduced themselves. Ms. Dixon began by discussing how the New Mexico Association of Food Banks (NMAFB) has five food banks that cover all 33 counties in New Mexico. She discussed a line item included in the

Health Care Authority's budget for \$10 million for food purchasing and a special line item in the budget for nonrecurring funding. She requested that the committee support keeping that money in the budget. Additionally, she discussed how 15.2% of New Mexicans are currently food insecure, that seniors and children are the most affected, that active duty military families experience food insecurity at twice the rate of the general public and that veterans struggle with obtaining federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Ms. Dixon stated that only 8% of veterans in New Mexico are currently receiving SNAP benefits.

Ms. Anderson discussed ways in which the Roadrunner Food Bank is currently assisting active duty military families and how it could use more assistance, specifically with the establishment of food pantry locations and regular food distribution events on or near military bases and at schools with large populations of military-family students. Ms. Anderson also discussed specific policy changes that could contribute to stronger programming, including extending the temporary lodging allowance, more engagement from military leadership on various bases and greater partnerships with the NMAFB and others. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=MVAC&Date=10/7/2024&ItemNumber=3>.

Approval of the Minutes (2:09 p.m.)

On a motion duly made and unanimously approved, the committee adopted the minutes of the September 3, 2024 meeting.

HAFB Update (2:13 p.m.)

Colonel Alfred Rosales, deputy commander, 49th Wing, HAFB, introduced himself and his staff. Colonel Rosales stated that the 49th Wing at HAFB is America's premier training wing with a primary focus on training world-class airmen and air crew for F-16 and MQ-9 aircraft. He mentioned that HAFB is the nation's third largest military base in terms of missions and people, with between 15,000 and 20,000 military families and only 11,000 homes on the base. HAFB is considered remote and isolated, which contributes to problems with access to child care, housing, schools and medical care. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=MVAC&Date=10/7/2024&ItemNumber=4>.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
FOURTH MEETING
of the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**November 8, 2024
State Capitol, Room 307
Santa Fe**

Friday, November 8

- 10:00 a.m. (1) [Veterans' Services Department](#)
 —Jamison Herrera, Secretary, Veterans' Services Department
- 11:00 a.m. (2) [Veterans Integration Centers](#)
 —Brock Wolff, Chief Executive Officer, Veterans Integration Centers
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. (3) [Bullhead Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.](#)
 —Allen Tate
- 2:30 p.m. (4) [Consideration of Legislation for Endorsement](#)
- 3:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

NOTE: Meeting canceled due to weather.



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO