

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

September 15, 2026
Christus Health
Conference Room
2669 North Scenic Drive
Alamogordo

Tuesday, September 15

- 9:30 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
 —Senator Harold Pope, Chair
 —Representative Debra M. Sariñana, Vice Chair
- 9:40 a.m. (1) [Update from Holloman Air Force Base \(HAFB\)](#)
 —Colonel John R. Stripling IV, Deputy Commander, HAFB
- 10:10 a.m. (2) [Update from White Sands Missile Range \(WSMR\)](#)
 —Colonel Michael A. Lueckeman, Garrison Commander, WSMR
 —Command Sergeant Major Jimmy J. Diaz, WSMR
- 10:45 a.m. (3) [Base and Community Interactions: Chambers of Commerce and the Casa Big Give](#)
 —Adam Hoppes, Executive Director, Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce
 —Stacie Allen, President and Chief Executive Officer, Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce
 —TBD, Casa Auto Dealers
- 11:15 a.m. (4) [New Mexico State University-Alamogordo \(NMSU-A\) Veteran Services](#)
 —Aidee McKinney, Associate Director, Student Services, NMSU-A
- 11:45 a.m. (5) [Local Veteran Experiences](#)
 —Fred Ballek, Retired Major, United States Marine Corps (1943-1970);
 Member, Rio Grande Honor Flight and Yellow Jackets of Otero County

- Gloria Fernandez, Retired Lieutenant Colonel, United States Air Force (1955-1975); Member, Rio Grande Honor Flight and Yellow Jackets of Otero County
- Irvin Michaud, Retired Airman, United States Air Force (1950-1953); Member, Rio Grande Honor Flight and Yellow Jackets of Otero County
- Floyd Stringer, Specialist 5, United States Army (1968-1971); Member, Rio Grande Honor Flight and Yellow Jackets of Otero County

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. (6) [Healing America's Heroes](#)
—Bob Wooley, Former State Representative, District 66; President, Healing America's Heroes

1:30 p.m. (7) [Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination in Holloman Lake](#)
—Jean-Luc Cartron, M.D., Ph.D., Research Professor, Department of Biology, University of New Mexico

2:15 p.m. **Public Comment***

2:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

*Members of the public may make virtual public comments during the public comment period of the meeting by following the instructions under the "Additional Information" section of the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee [web page](#).

If you have a disability and require assistance accessing a meeting, please [click here to request an accommodation](#). You may also call Robin Garrison at (505) 986-4685 or email ada.assist@nmlegis.gov. Please help us prepare your accommodation by submitting your request at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Requests made with less than a 24-hour notice cannot be guaranteed.