

**2010 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Members

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Rep. Thomas A. Garcia, Co-Chair
Rep. Elias Barela
Rep. Nathan P. Cote

Sen. Eric G. Griego
Rep. Dianne Miller Hamilton
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Advisory Members

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Rep. Thomas A. Anderson
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Sen. Mary Jane M. Garcia
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Sen. Richard C. Martinez
Rep. Rodolpho "Rudy" S. Martinez
Rep. Kathy A. McCoy
Sen. William H. Payne
Rep. Edward C. Sandoval

Work Plan

The Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee was first created by statute for the 2009 interim only. During the 2010 regular session, the committee was permanently reauthorized by statute. The committee was given various statutory duties. The committee shall make a report and recommend any necessary legislation to the next session of the legislature and make legislative recommendations to Congress and regulatory recommendations to 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 conduct hearings relating to military issues and veterans' issues. This year, however, the committee will limit travel to Albuquerque in order to reduce costs for legislative staff and executive agency personnel.

The committee will also assist the Government Restructuring Task Force by studying the current resources of the Veterans' Services Department, the Department of Military Affairs and the Office of Military Base Support and Planning, those agencies' programs, services, funding and policies and the public needs served by those agencies. The committee will coordinate, as needed, with other committees regarding presentations of subject matter of common concern.

During the 2010 interim, the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee proposes to explore and discuss the topics in each major issue area affecting veterans and servicemembers here as follows:

A. Education:

1. the benefits and feasibility of establishing uniform standards for accepting military credit and articulation among all colleges and universities in New Mexico pursuant to

House Joint Memorial 1;

2. educational opportunities for veterans and their families, including college scholarships for veterans;

3. educational opportunities for servicemembers and their families, including secondary school priority for military children and performance evaluations for K-12; and

4. the implementation of HB 24, the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

B. Health:

1. health care delivery systems for military personnel, veterans and those in transition to include expansion of emergency room treatment to primary care treatment and continued treatment for posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury;

2. long-term care for aging veterans, including aid and attendance special pension benefits for long-term care expenses;

3. integration of homeless veterans back into stable homes, including special accommodations for female veterans;

4. establishment of a holistic wellness center;

5. establishment of a clinic for female veterans;

6. implementation of the federal Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010; and

7. the veterans home in Truth or Consequences.

C. Courts and Justice:

1. procedures and guidelines for servicemembers in child custody proceedings;

2. procedures and guidelines for veterans in the judicial system; and

3. pretrial diversion programs for veterans and servicemembers suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.

D. Military Base Operations and Missions:

1. family support centers and other support for military families and

communities;

2. ensuring adequate resources for military women for programs such as sexual assault prevention and response;

3. establishing missions and operations in New Mexico, such as cyber-defense command and endurance category unmanned aerial vehicles, to support foreign conflicts; and

4. the effects of base operations at the state level.

E. Commemoration of Veterans:

1. re-establishment of the Veterans' National Cemetery Fund;

2. funding eligibility from the Veterans' National Cemetery Fund for Fort Bayard National Cemetery and Santa Fe National Cemetery pursuant to House Joint Memorial 10; and

3. the role of veterans organizations, including applications of liquor fees.

F. Economic Development:

1. veterans business and entrepreneur programs; and

2. establishment of new revenue sources, such as an enterprise fund.

G. New Mexico National Guard:

1. interface of New Mexico National Guard personnel and the federal government, including hazard pay, eligibility and requirements for medical coverage, and employer support of the guard and reserve programs; and

2. deployment and mission of the New Mexico National Guard at the state and federal levels.

**Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee
2010 Approved Meeting Schedule**

Dates	Location
June 10, 2010	Santa Fe
July 20, 2010	Albuquerque
July 21, 2010	Rio Rancho
September 10, 2010	Santa Fe
November 12, 2010	Santa Fe