

Combat Veteran Scholarship

New Mexico Department of Veteran Services
Military and Veterans Interim Committee

October 3, 2012

Northern New Mexico College
Española, NM

New Mexico Veteran Population

- Total Veteran Population – 175,700
- Combat Veterans
 - Gulf War - 50,000
 - Vietnam - 57,000
- Numbers estimated by US Department of Veterans Affairs as of September 30, 2010

Constitutional Amendment

- House Joint Resolution 11 Sponsored by
 - Rep Ed Sandoval
 - Rep Jim Trujillo
 - Rep Lucky Varela
 - Bipartisan co-sponsors
- Passed the legislature in 2009
- Passed by the general voting public November 2010

Background

- Post 9/11 Veteran Education Program
- Key Benefits
 - 15 years to use benefit
 - Transferability
 - Additional Programs available

Impact

- Veteran must exhaust their federal educational benefits
- Scholarship would allow veterans to finish their degree
- Education key to reintegration after discharge
- Higher paying jobs require more education
- Benefit to economy

Fiscal Impact

- With the majority of recently discharged veterans still within the 10 year period under the Montgomery GI Bill and the 15 year period under the Post 9/11 GI Bill there will be little immediate impact on the fund.
- DVS and HED estimate the initial request to be between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Questions

- Thank you for your continued support of all New Mexico Veterans and their families.

