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HOUSE BILL 550

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Sandra D. Jeff

AN ACT

RELATING TO VETERANS' SERVICES; CREATING A NATIVE AMERICAN
VETERANS DIVISION WITHIN THE VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 9-22-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2004,
Chapter 19, Section 4) is amended to read:

"9-22-4. DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED.--The "veterans' services
department" is created in the executive branch. The department
is a cabinet department and includes the following divisions:

- A. the administrative services division;
- B. the field services division;
- C. the ~~[state approving]~~ Native American veterans
division; and
- D. the state benefits division."

SECTION 2. A new section of the Veterans' Services

underscoring material = new
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Department Act is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS DIVISION.--The

Native American veterans division shall:

A. conduct outreach to Native American veterans and Native American veterans organizations;

B. act as a liaison between Native American veterans and Native American veterans organizations and the department, the state and the federal government; and

C. assist Native American veterans to organize and advocate for benefits and services unique to Native Americans."