Legislative Committee Report

ALBUMOAA Board Meeting - 01/02/20

- Representatives from the Military Veterans Legislative Council met with Senator Burt on 9 December 2019 to develop the way forward during the legislative session.
  - Senator Burt requested information that he would provide to the Legislative Finance Council to assist in the formulation of the Financial Impact Report
    - Intent of the information is to prevent the negative connotations in last session’s Financial Impact Report
    - Walter Paul, Rudy Checkley and Alen Martinez are working the questions
  - Senator Burt is working to determine which Representative(s) would be best to sponsor a duplicate bill in the House.
  - Proposed Senate Bill has not been prefiled as on 01/02/20

- It is apparent that the governor does not want to address any tax issues this session. Therefore, our PIT initiative is probably at a dead end this year.
  - Some thoughts on the way forward.
    - Communicate with Senator Burt to prefile the PIT exemption bill regardless of the governor’s position on tax initiatives/changes for the 2020 session.
    - Begin a campaign to remind the governor of her campaign promises to retirees and veterans.
      - The thrust of the campaign should be: What is the Governor’s commitment to honor the campaign pledges to support veterans and retirees?
      - Draft a Joint Resolution to update the study completed by the Arrow Head Center at NMSU
  - Two bills have been prefiled in the House exempting Social Security from New Mexico personal income tax

- Representative Alcon has prefiled a bill concerning expedited licensure for military families
  - Bill is co-sponsored by Senator Gould and Representative Sarinana
  - The Bill meets the requirements of the Senate Public Affairs Committee amendment to HB 530 in last years Session

- I will be speaking at the Breakfast Club on January 14.

- Now is the time to engage with your State Senator and State Representative on issues affecting military members and retirees.
  - Proposed legislation can be pre-filed beginning December 17.
  - Pre-filed legislation can be accessed on the legislature website.
    - nmlegis.gov

- Anyone interested in actively supporting military and retiree issues during the session, contact Marvin Schott at maschott@comcast.net.