On 19 November 2019 CSM (R) Rudy Checkley, (Military Veterans Legislative Council Legislative Team Leader), MSG Martin Gallegos, Mary Gallegos, Allen Martinez, Max Johnson, LTC Scott Weaver, and MAJ Jason Peete attended the Legislative Veterans and Military Affairs committee at the Capitol where the Uniformed Services Retirees Tax Deduction bill (Draft) was introduced by Senator Burt and the committee unanimously endorsed the bill to move forward.

- The bill proposes a graduated deduction from net income in three increments:
  - Beginning with tax year 2021, a deduction of 33% not to exceed $16,333 will be allowed.
  - Beginning with tax year 2022, a deduction of 66% not to exceed $33,666 will be allowed.
  - Beginning with tax year 2023 and thereafter a deduction of 100% not to exceed $50,000 will be allowed.
  - The exemption applies to retirees and the retiree’s surviving spouse.

- Representatives from the Military Veterans Legislative Council will meet with Senator Burt on 9 December 2019 to develop the way forward during the legislative session.

- Allen Martinez (former New Mexico Department of Veterans Services Deputy Cabinet Secretary) will be working to gain support from our Senators and Representatives who in the past has shown resistance to this initiative.
  - The goal is to submit identical bills in the Senate and the House of Representatives.
  - In addition we will strive to obtain both Republican and Democrat sponsorship.

- We are still working to contact a representative from the Department of Veterans Services Task Force on Veterans Transportation.

- The next Military Veterans Legislative Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 17.

- I will speak at the January Breakfast Club on January 14 to:
  - Describe the formation of the Military Veterans Legislative Council
- Update the proposed PIT exemption for military retirees.
- What to expect during the 2020 Legislative Session.
- How to obtain information on Committee Hearings in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.
- Answer questions

➢ 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.