



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

SB 20-091

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0667 Date: January 17, 2020
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Zenzinger; Sonnenberg Bill Status: Senate SVMA
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Bill Topic: MINIMUM PAY FOR STATE MILITARY FORCES

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure (conditional), State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

The bill increases the minimum daily pay received by a member of the National Guard called into emergency service by the Governor. The bill increases state expenditures whenever the Governor uses his authority to call the National Guard into emergency service.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the governor may activate Colorado National Guard units for state active duty to protect life and property during natural disasters and civil emergencies. A guard member's pay rate during the emergency is determined by the member's rank and years of service; however, the minimum pay for a guard member called to emergency service is \$20 per day.

This bill sets the minimum pay for a member to be equivalent to the pay rate of an enlisted person holding the rank of E-4 with over six years of service.

Background

The daily pay rate for an enlisted person holding the rank of E-4 with six years of service is estimated at \$88.80. Assuming a 12 hour day, this equates to about \$7.40 an hour. Under current law, the minimum pay is \$20.00 per day, or about \$1.67 an hour.

State Expenditures

The bill conditionally increases state expenditures whenever the Governor orders members of the National Guard into emergency service. For example, the Governor ordered the National Guard to assist with the Spring Creek Fire in 2018, The DMVA engaged 61 low rank guard members into

service for that event. At \$20 per day, a single day cost for those 61 members is \$1,220. If those members were paid at the new minimum of \$88.80 per day, a single day would increase to about \$5,417. This fiscal note assumes that any increase in costs will be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Governor Military Affairs