

CHAPTER 34

MILITARY AND VETERANS

SENATE BILL 20-082

BY SENATOR(S) Hisey and Todd, Bridges, Crowder, Danielson, Fields, Foote, Gardner, Ginal, Hansen, Hill, Holbert, Lee, Marble, Priola, Rankin, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Story, Tate, Williams A., Winter, Woodward, Zenzinger, Garcia; also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Landgraf and Lontine, Baisley, Bird, Bockenfeld, Buckner, Buentello, Caraveo, Carver, Champion, Cutter, Esgar, Exum, Garnett, Gray, Herod, Holtorf, Hooton, Humphrey, Jaquez Lewis, Kipp, Liston, McCluskie, McLachlan, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Sandridge, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Van Winkle, Weissman, Williams D., Woodrow, Young.

AN ACT

CONCERNING AWARDS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 28-3-1201 as follows:

28-3-1201. Long service medal. ~~A medal, designated as the "long service medal", shall be awarded each officer and enlisted person of the National Guard of Colorado who has served honestly and faithfully in any organization or department of the National Guard of Colorado, in state or federal service, for a period of ten years, not necessarily consecutive, and, for every period of five years thereafter, there shall be awarded a suitable bar to be worn on the ribbon of the medal.~~

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 28-3-1202 as follows:

28-3-1202. Meritorious conduct medal. THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD a medal, designated as the "meritorious conduct medal", ~~shall be awarded each officer and enlisted person of the National Guard of Colorado who, when on an active duty status not in the~~ TO ANY PERSON SERVING IN ANY CAPACITY IN OR WITH THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING IN OR WITH THE COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD, WHO, WHEN ON ANY DUTY STATUS EXCEPT federal service, distinguishes himself or herself by extraordinary heroism or ~~has endangered his or her life in~~ BY saving the lives of ~~others~~ LIFE OF ANOTHER BY PHYSICAL ACTION OR BY PROVIDING SUBSTANTIAL MEDICAL TREATMENT OF AN INJURY THAT, HAD TREATMENT NOT BEEN ADMINISTERED, WOULD HAVE RESULTED IN THE PERSON'S DEATH. A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT AWARD IS DENOTED BY A BRONZE OAK-LEAF CLUSTER.

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 28-3-1203 as follows:

28-3-1203. Meritorious service medal. THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD a medal, designated as the "meritorious service medal", ~~shall be awarded to any person serving in any capacity in or with, the National Guard of Colorado who~~ OR ANY PERSON ACTING IN SUPPORT OF, ANY DIVISION OR OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING THE COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD, WHO, WHEN ON ANY DUTY STATUS EXCEPT FEDERAL SERVICE, distinguishes himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious service ~~for the state of Colorado~~ TO THE DEPARTMENT.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 28-3-1204 as follows:

28-3-1204. Active service medal. THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD a medal, designated as the "active service medal", ~~shall be awarded to any person who is not a member of the military and who is serving with or has served with the National Guard of Colorado in any campaign or period of federal active duty under call or order of the president of the United States. This medal shall be awarded pursuant to regulations issued by the adjutant general. A clasp showing the dates only of such active service will be worn on the ribbon of the medal, and there shall be one clasp for each separate period of active service.~~ IN OR WITH ANY DIVISION OR OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING IN THE COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD IN STATE OR FEDERAL SERVICE, FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS. THE TEN YEARS OF SERVICE DO NOT NEED TO BE CONSECUTIVE. FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT PERIOD OF TEN YEARS OF SERVICE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD THE INDIVIDUAL A BRONZE KNOT TO BE WORN ON THE RIBBON OF THE MEDAL.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 28-3-1204.5 as follows:

28-3-1204.5. Colorado legion of merit medal. (1) (a) THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD A MEDAL, DESIGNATED AS THE "COLORADO LEGION OF MERIT MEDAL", TO ANY MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING THE COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD, WHO HAS RENDERED SERVICE IN A CLEARLY EXCEPTIONAL, UNPRECEDENTED, OR SUPERIOR MANNER IN SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT AND WHO HAS SERVED IN A POSITION OF SENIOR LEADERSHIP OR SENIOR COMMAND, HAS DEMONSTRATED SIGNIFICANT RESPONSIBILITY, SERVED IN A POSITION OF EXTREMELY DIFFICULT DUTY, OR WAS A KEY INDIVIDUAL IN MISSION OR DUTY SUCCESS.

(b) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PRESENT THE COLORADO LEGION OF MERIT MEDAL UPON THE MEMBER'S RETIREMENT OR THE COMPLETION OF ANY ASSIGNMENT, MISSION, OR SERVICE.

(2) THE ADJUTANT GENERAL MAY AWARD THE COLORADO LEGION OF MERIT MEDAL TO A PERSON WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT WHO HAS RENDERED SERVICE IN A CLEARLY EXCEPTIONAL, UNPRECEDENTED, OR SUPERIOR MANNER IN SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT.

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 28-3-1205 as follows:

28-3-1205. Lapel button. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, UPON REQUEST AND WITHOUT COST, GIVE a lapel button denoting membership in the Colorado National

Guard ~~shall be given without cost to every~~ ANY actively participating officer and enlisted person.

SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 28-3-1208 as follows:

28-3-1208. Noncommissioned officer/soldier/airman of the year ribbon.

~~(1) A ribbon, designated as the "noncommissioned officer/soldier/airman of the year ribbon", shall be awarded each year to five members of the National Guard of Colorado selected through both the Army and air command channels. The five recipients shall be as follows:~~

- ~~(a) An Army noncommissioned officer;~~
- ~~(b) An Army enlisted soldier;~~
- ~~(c) An air senior noncommissioned officer;~~
- ~~(d) An air noncommissioned officer; and~~
- ~~(e) An airman.~~

SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 28-3-1213 as follows:

~~**28-3-1213. Foreign deployment service ribbon.** A ribbon, designated as the "foreign deployment service ribbon", shall be awarded to any member of the National Guard of Colorado who has satisfactorily served the state and nation on a deployment to a foreign country for a continuous period of at least four days.~~

SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 28-3-1214 as follows:

~~**28-3-1214. State mobilization support ribbon.** A ribbon, designated as the "state mobilization support ribbon", shall be awarded to members of the National Guard of Colorado and other persons or organizations who have, through their own outstanding and exemplary actions, attitude, efforts, and service, supported the mobilization of units of the National Guard of Colorado when called to serve their country. These actions may include support in returning units to state control upon demobilization.~~

SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 28-3-1216 as follows:

~~**28-3-1216. Command tour ribbon.** A ribbon, designated as the "command tour ribbon", shall be awarded to a command sergeant major, a command chief, or a first sergeant who has been or is currently assigned to one of those designated positions for a period of not less than twenty-four months and who meets any additional criteria established by the adjutant general in military regulations.~~

SECTION 11. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 5, 2020, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2020); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of

this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: March 20, 2020