



FACT SHEET- SB 20-091 MINIMUM PAY FOR STATE MILITARY FORCES

BOTTOM LINE: This bill increases the minimum daily pay for the lowest ranking service members on State Active Duty from \$20 to \$88.80 or from \$1.67 an hour to \$7.40 an hour (assuming a 12- hour duty day).

What does this bill do?

This proposal would modify CRS 28-3-904 to require the minimum amount of a pay an enlisted Colorado National Guard member would receive to be set at E-4 with over six years of service. The current requirement is “no member shall receive less than twenty dollars a day.”

Why is this legislation necessary?

State Active Duty is typically utilized by the Governor to call up the National Guard in a time of state emergency like a wildfire or flood. Since these events often occur with no warning and can last for weeks at a time, the impact to the families of National Guard members can be more significant due to the sudden change in household income. Allowing the minimum pay to be set at E-4, over six years of service, creates less burden on the National Guard members household income when activated by the Governor to serve Colorado.

How many service members are effected?

The Spring Creek Fire in 2018 had a total personnel cost of \$24,472.69 as this was a short duration event. The Colorado National Guard had 61 members under E-4 for a personnel cost of \$5,808.70. If the new proposal were in effect the personnel cost would be \$6,491.25 (difference of \$682.55 or 2.79%).

The Red Canyon Fire in 2018 had a total personnel cost of \$2,135.33. The Colorado National Guard had 2 members under E-4 for a personnel cost of \$136.33. If the new proposal were in effect the personnel cost would be \$173.10 (difference of \$36.17 or 1.71%).

Is there a fiscal note to this bill?

No. The pay for these service members is funded through the state emergency fund, so no general fund is required.