

CHAPTER 4

MILITARY AND VETERANS

HOUSE BILL 15-1052

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Carver and Melton, Buckner, Court, Danielson, Fields, Foote, Ginal, Hamner, Kraft-Tharp, Lebsack, Lee, Lontine, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Neville P., Pabon, Pettersen, Rankin, Rosenthal, Roupe, Ryden, Salazar, Singer, Williams, Winter, Young;
also SENATOR(S) Todd, Aguilar, Baumgardner, Carroll, Cooke, Crowder, Donovan, Garcia, Grantham, Guzman, Heath, Hodge, Jahn, Johnston, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Neville T., Newell, Roberts, Scott, Sonnenberg, Ulibarri, Woods, Cadman.

AN ACT**CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE A GRANT FROM THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND.**

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 28-3-1501 as follows:

28-3-1501. Legislative declaration. The general assembly hereby finds and declares that, due to the many ~~involuntary~~ mobilizations subsequent to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, many families of Colorado National Guard members and reservists face financial hardships when the National Guard member or reservist is called to active military duty or state active duty because the military pay of a soldier is often far less than his or her civilian salary. Because private companies often do not make up the difference in salary, military families may see a significant drop in household income while a family member is away on active military duty or state active duty. In addition, active duty military personnel and their families encounter additional hardships when the active duty member is deployed to zones in which he or she will encounter hostile fire. Many families of Colorado National Guard members, reservists, and active duty military personnel also face additional expenses caused by a long family separation. The general assembly further finds and declares that grants from the military family relief fund are intended to help families defray the costs of food, housing, utilities, medical services, and other expenses that may be difficult to afford when a family member leaves civilian employment for active military duty, is on active military duty in a hostile fire zone, or is called to state active duty by executive order of the governor.

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 28-3-1503, **amend** (2) (a) as follows:

28-3-1503. Administration of moneys. (2) A member of the Colorado National Guard or a reservist shall meet the following requirements to be eligible to receive a grant from the fund:

(a) The National Guard member or reservist is currently on active military duty for a minimum of thirty days on ~~involuntary~~ mobilization orders PURSUANT TO TITLE 10 OF THE UNITED STATE CODE or is called to state active duty by executive order of the governor.

SECTION 3. 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, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); 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 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: March 11, 2015