

Support  
HB24-1226



Tuition Assistance for Colorado National Guard & Dependents

**Sponsored by:** Representative Hartsook and Representative Lukens

## Issue:

The military is facing an unprecedented shortfall in recruiting and retention not seen since the adoption of the all-volunteer force. Colorado requires a strong National Guard to ensure they are “Always Ready, Always There” when the Governor calls on them to support State Emergencies. With the elimination of the 20yr retirement, Service Members have less incentive to continue their military service in support to the state of Colorado.

## Questions?

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## What does this bill do?

- Expands the existing Colorado National Guard (CONG) Tuition Assistance from the Service Member to include Spouses and Children
- Existing law provides a CONG Service Member State tuition assistance after 6 months of service
- Once a Service Member serves 6 years in the CONG their dependents are eligible for tuition assistance as long as they continue to serve in the CONG
- Once a Service Member serves 12 years in the CONG their children can apply for tuition assistance until they reach age 26
- Creates a separate account for Family Tuition Assistance from the fund for Service Members
- Allows funds to be used for both Tuition and Fees
- Does not guarantee availability of funds