



MESSAGE FROM MARSHA
House District 19, State Representative

Colorado National Guard & Military Members Benefits Continued..

MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUNDS AVAILABLE NOW!

When a reservist is called to duty often their salaries are suspended or reduced substantially. At times it may be difficult for the family to pay all of their monthly bills. In 2005, the General Assembly established the Military Family Relief Fund to help with food costs, utility bills and other expenses that these families may not be able to afford.

Colorado National Guard members, reservists, active duty military personnel and their family members may be eligible for grant money to help defray the costs of food, housing utilities, medical services and other expenses difficult to afford when a family member leaves civilian employment for active military duty, or is on active military duty in a hostile fire zone. This year, with the passage of House Bill 1371 there is no longer a maximum pay grade cap. House Bill 1371 eliminated the maximum pay grade that a Colorado National Guard member, reservist or active duty military member must hold in order to be eligible, or for his or her family to be eligible, to receive a grant from this fund.

Funding for The Military Family Relief Fund comes from donations received from voluntary income tax check-off on the Colorado State individual income tax return. The fund is administered by the Colorado National Guard Foundation. During 2006, \$207,248 was donated to the fund, and to date 4 grants totaling \$14,500 have been awarded. There is approximately \$192,748 still available for those in need! If you know anyone who is in the Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Air Force Active Duty, Marine Corps, Army Reserve or Navy Reserve that could use this additional help, please refer them to the Colorado Military & Veterans Affairs Department on the web at WWW.DMVA.STATE.CO.US, or contact me at 719-238-5600 and I will be happy to assist anyone in applying for these grants.

INSTATE TUTION FOR ARMED SERVICES MEMBERS and DEPENDENTS!

It is my honor to continue to support the men and women of the Armed Services by co-sponsoring House Bill 1163, a bill that allows in-state tuition status for persons in the military and their dependents if the member is transferred to Colorado on a TEMPORARY DUTY ASSIGNMENT. House Bill 1163 also makes all members of the Colorado National Guard and their dependents eligible for the in-state tuition status as well.

As of July 1, 2007 all men and women of the Armed Services and all members of the Colorado National Guard and their dependents are eligible for in-state tuition.

I am committed to supporting and fighting for benefits for the fine men and women of our Armed Services and their family members. If you have any concerns or questions about this or any other issues, please feel free to call me at 719-238-5600 or email me at MarshaLooper@hughes.net.

Respectfully,

Marsha Looper,
Colorado State Representative, HD19

