

Message from Marsha

HONORING THOSE WHO PROTECT OUR FREEDOMS, LIBERTIES AND LIVES

This legislative session I am privileged to serve as the ranking Republican on the State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee in the Colorado House of Representatives. House District 19 is proud to be home to Schriever Air Force Base, Peterson Air Force Base and a small portion of Fort Carson. As the daughter of an Air Force mechanic, I know the challenges that our active duty military men, women and family members face on a daily basis.

My father shared stories of triumphs and defeats with me, stories that have molded my opinion of the men and women who sacrifice their lives for our nation on a daily basis. I believe as a nation, as a state and as the legislators who represent our districts, we should constantly remember and recognize their unselfish service to our country.

Appreciation is not always self evident! History teaches us that our military has not always received the public gratitude and respect they so richly deserve for protecting our lives and liberties! Veterans and Military Appreciation Day is a tradition of the Colorado General Assembly spanning decades.

Time spent on Resolutions does not take time away from considering policy issues. Bills move through the process, and pass or fail, based on the desires of the majority party! Often floor sessions and standing committees work well into the night to make time for everything to be fully considered.

Our State Capitol building is full of history and symbolism, and our legislative process has formalities and traditions dating back to Colorado's statehood. Symbolic, ceremonial activities are important aspects of all societies, cultures and religions and reflect our values as a society. They are used to mark life transitions, celebrate accomplishments, reaffirm our faith, and show respect for our traditions.

Frank J. Montoya, Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Retired of Fountain reminds us that symbols, traditions and ceremonies are extremely important. The American Flag, American Eagle and Statue of Liberty are all symbols of courage and bravery of the American Spirit! Frank poses a very important question, should we let "unreasonableness and extremism erode the things we cherish"?

As your Representative and **YOUR VOICE** at the Legislature, I am honored to have the opportunity to express your appreciation and respect for the contributions and sacrifices others have made to our community, state and nation!

If you have any questions or comments about this or any other issue, please contact me at MarshaLooper@gmail.com, or call me at 238-5600. For additional information visit WWW.GOMARSHA.ORG. Thank you for the privilege of serving you!

Marsha Looper,
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