

17 January 2009

Representative Marsha Looper District 19 200 E. Colfax Ave. Denver, CO 80203

Dear Representative Looper,

Thank you for your support of our military and their families and for sponsoring HB 09-1054 - ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO LEAVES EMPLOYMENT TO RELOCATE TO A NEW PLACE OF RESIDENCE AFTER THE INDIVIDUAL'S ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY SPOUSE IS KILLED IN COMBAT.

Members of our military, primarily from Ft Carson, have served their country in an exceptional manner, and far too many have made the ultimate sacrifice in their service to our nation. Many have left behind grieving families, which now have to begin life anew – without their spouse.

These families, for obvious reasons, must choose to return to other parts of the country so they have the necessary, and needed, support of family and friends. HB 09-1054 provides a bridge as they resettle until they can once again return to the workforce. It is a small benefit that our State can provide to the spouse of one of our own that has been killed in service to their nation.

Our military men and women deserve and have earned our support. The Military Affairs Council of the Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and I applaud you for your efforts and would urge your colleagues in our State legislature to fully support HB 09-1054.

Respectfully,

Brian Binn, President Military Affairs Division

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