

Colorado *Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*
NO FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 11-0281 **Date:** January 20, 2011
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Ryden; Fields **Bill Status:** House Finance
 Sen. Carroll **Fiscal Analyst:** Ron Kirk (303-866-4785)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION DESIGNATION BENEFITING THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND THAT APPEARS ON THE STATE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN FORMS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, EXTENDING THE PERIOD FOR THE CONTRIBUTION DESIGNATION.

Summary of Legislation

This bill extends the voluntary contribution designation (or income tax checkoff) benefitting the Military Family Relief Fund from tax year 2011 through income tax year 2020. Money from the Military Family Relief Fund is used for emergency grants for financial hardships to members of the Colorado National Guard or reservists and their families when ordered to active military duty. Grants are also awarded to active duty military personnel stationed in Colorado and their family members when the active duty military member is deployed to a declared hostile fire zone.

Background. The Military Family Relief Fund first appeared on the 2005 income tax form and has received donations for the 2005 through 2009 tax years. This checkoff was also effective for the 2010 tax year under current law. Of 14 income tax checkoffs that appeared on the 2009 tax form, total collections for this checkoff were the highest of all contributions at \$187,799 for 12,479 returns. Average individual donations were the highest of all contributions at \$15.05 for tax year 2009. Table 1 provides a five-year history on money donated to the fund.

Table 1. Military Family Relief Fund Donations

Tax Years	Number of Returns	Total Donations	Average Donations
2005	16,695	\$207,248	\$12.41
2006	16,418	229,126	13.96
2007	17,159	254,827	14.85
2008	14,779	213,982	14.48
<u>2009</u>	<u>12,479</u>	<u>187,799</u>	<u>15.05</u>
5-year avg.	15,506	\$218,596	\$14.10

Assessment

Because this bill extends an existing checkoff, the bill will not affect state revenue or expenditures and is thus assessed as having no fiscal impact.

Departments Contacted

Revenue