First Regular Session Seventieth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction HOUSE BILL 15-1052

LLS NO. 15-0303.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Carver and Melton,

Todd,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

House Committees State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Appropriations **Senate Committees**

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE A GRANT FROM THE MILITARY

102 FAMILY RELIEF FUND.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <u>http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.</u>)

Under current law, to be eligible to receive a grant from the military family relief fund, a member of the Colorado National Guard or a reservist must be on active military duty for a minimum of 30 days on involuntary mobilization orders or called to state active duty by executive order of the governor.

The bill removes the requirement that the member's or reservist's





mobilization orders must be involuntary.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: 1

2 SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 28-3-1501 as 3 follows:

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28-3-1501. Legislative declaration. The general assembly hereby 5 finds and declares that, due to the many involuntary mobilizations 6 subsequent to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, many families of 7 Colorado National Guard members and reservists face financial hardships 8 when the National Guard member or reservist is called to active military 9 duty or state active duty because the military pay of a soldier is often far 10 less than his or her civilian salary. Because private companies often do 11 not make up the difference in salary, military families may see a 12 significant drop in household income while a family member is away on 13 active military duty or state active duty. In addition, active duty military 14 personnel and their families encounter additional hardships when the 15 active duty member is deployed to zones in which he or she will 16 encounter hostile fire. Many families of Colorado National Guard 17 members, reservists, and active duty military personnel also face 18 additional expenses caused by a long family separation. The general 19 assembly further finds and declares that grants from the military family 20 relief fund are intended to help families defray the costs of food, housing, 21 utilities, medical services, and other expenses that may be difficult to 22 afford when a family member leaves civilian employment for active 23 military duty, is on active military duty in a hostile fire zone, or is called 24 to state active duty by executive order of the governor.

25 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 28-3-1503, amend 1 (2) (a) as follows:

- 2 28-3-1503. Administration of moneys. (2) A member of the
 Colorado National Guard or a reservist shall meet the following
 requirements to be eligible to receive a grant from the fund:
- (a) The National Guard member or reservist is currently on active
 military duty for a minimum of thirty days on involuntary mobilization
 orders PURSUANT TO TITLE 10 OF THE UNITED STATE CODE or is called to
 state active duty by executive order of the governor.

9 **SECTION 3.** Act subject to petition - effective date. This act 10 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the 11 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 12 5, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a 13 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the 14 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act 15 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect 16 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in 17 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the 18 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.