HOUSE BILL NO. 740

INTRODUCED BY A. OLSON

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MILITARY HEADSTONE FOR CERTAIN VETERANS; <u>PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION</u>; AND <u>AMENDING SECTION 10-2-501, MCA PROVIDING AN</u> <u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

(Refer to Introduced Bill)

Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 1. State military headstone allowance. (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the state shall reimburse the actual cost, not to exceed \$300, of a headstone or marker for an eligible Montana national guard veteran, as defined in subsection (2).

- (2) An eligible Montana national guard veteran is a person, who at the time of the person's death:
- (a) is a resident of the state;

(b) is entitled to receive a military retirement allowance for service that includes service in the Montana national guard; and

(c) does not meet the eligibility criteria for a federal government headstone or marker pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 2306.

(3) The board shall administer the provisions of this section.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated \$60,000 from the state general FUND TO THE BOARD OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS TO BE USED FOR IMPLEMENTING [SECTION 1].

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 3. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 10, chapter 2, part 5, and the provisions of Title 10, chapter 2, part 5, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

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