

1 **COUNSELING FOR FAMILIES OF VETERANS**

2 2006 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Tim M. Cosgrove**

5 Senate Sponsor: Peter C. Knudson

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill creates a counseling program for servicemembers and their families.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

- 12 ▶ provides definitions; and
- 13 ▶ directs the Department of Human Services to develop and implement a statewide
- 14 counseling program for servicemembers and their families to facilitate the
- 15 reintegration of servicemembers back into civilian and family life after deployment.

16 **Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

17 None

18 **Other Special Clauses:**

19 None

20 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

21 ENACTS:

22 **39-8-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

23 **39-8-102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

25 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

26 Section 1. Section **39-8-101** is enacted to read:

27 **Part 8. Servicemember's Counseling Program**

28 **39-8-101. Definitions.**

29 As used in this part:

30 (1) "Active duty" means that a servicemember is activated and deployed outside the
31 state pursuant to federal orders under Title 10 or Title 32, United States Code.

32 (2) "Servicemember" means a resident of this state who is a member of the Utah
33 National Guard or a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces in this state.

34 Section 2. Section **39-8-102** is enacted to read:

35 **39-8-102. Counseling program.**

36 (1) There is created within the Department of Human Services, a counseling program
37 for servicemembers and the families of servicemembers following demobilization from active
38 service.

39 (2) The Department of Human Services shall develop and, within the appropriations of
40 the Legislature, implement a statewide counseling program for the servicemember and the
41 servicemember's immediate family.

42 (3) The program shall:

43 (a) be available to the servicemember and the servicemember's immediate family:

44 (i) 60 days prior to the servicemember's return or demobilization; and

45 (ii) until one year from the date of return or demobilization, whichever is later; and

46 (b) include counseling services designed to facilitate the reintegration of the
47 servicemember back into civilian and family life.

48 (4) The Department of Human Services shall seek input from the Utah National Guard
49 regarding the content of the counseling program.