

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rep. Amy Stephens
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COLORADO
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Session Ends on High Note for Stephens

House approves Military Spouse Benefits & School Safety bills as legislators leave for the year

DENVER – State Rep. Amy Stephens (R-Monument) wrapped up another successful session as the Colorado General Assembly adjourned for the year Tuesday evening, one day early. It was Stephens' second session as she finishes her first term in the State House of Representatives. Acting in the final days of the session, the House approved HB 1180 and SB 1 that provides unemployment benefits for military spouses transferred with an active duty spouse and the creation of a school safety resource center to develop plans for school safety for all schools in Colorado.

"I am proud of the strong record of accomplishments we have built for the people living in Northern El Paso County," Stephens said. "Fighting for our men and women in uniform, common sense healthcare transparency, public safety and business opportunity were the hallmark of my work this session. For the second year in a row Stephens passed her legislative agenda along with co-sponsored bills as a Republican Minority member of the legislature. "I've worked hard with members on the other side of the aisle to focus on issues of importance to all of us" said Stephens.

Stephens earned high marks as a "rising star" in the legislature (Denver Post) as well as earning the support of her colleagues by electing her Minority Caucus Chairwoman in her first term in the Legislature. Stephens has won kudos from the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry as well as the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce for her work in the legislature.

"Our most important work is to ensure that government is always responsive to Colorado taxpayers," said Stephens. "It is also a top priority for me to keep Colorado a safe and business-friendly state."

Stephens led her caucus on healthcare issues – introducing a bi-partisan bill that would make the average costs of the top twenty five hospital procedures available online for consumers as well as the average reimbursement rates from insurance. "My goal is to continue to move the healthcare debate towards empowering consumers to have more control over their healthcare" said Stephens.

"Amy is a true leader in the House," said Representative Cory Garder (R-Yuma), House Minority Whip. "Members from both sides of the aisle look to her for her expertise on health and human service issues as well as her strong support of law enforcement."

Stephens co-sponsored some bills that were killed in committee while trying to send a strong message to the state. SB 125- *Sexual Material Harmful to Children*, a Harvey/Stephens bill would have allowed municipalities greater determination over defining material harmful to minors. SB 115 – *Civil Action Gun-Free Zones*, a Brophy/Stephens bill would allow a person to collect civil damages for criminal conduct if in a gun-free zone when the person could have defended him or herself by possession of a firearm.

Rep. Stephens is in her first term in the State House of Representatives and serves on the House Judiciary and Business Affairs & Labor Committees.

Stephens Bills—2008 Session, Colorado General Assembly

HB 1180 – Stephens, Looper/Schaffer, Tapia: *Unemployment Benefits for Military Spouses* – Passed, on Governor’s Desk

HB 1162 – Stephens/Bacon: *Military Spouse Interim Ed Waiver*
Passed & Signed by Governor, March 2008

HB1352 – Stephens/Morse: *Parole Revocation Placement*, Passed and on Governor’s Desk

HB 1393 – Stephens, Pommer/Morse, Mitchell: *Consumer Healthcare Transparency Act*, Passed and on Governor’s desk

SB 33 – Schaffer/Stephens: *Private Trust Companies Banking*, Passed and on Governor’s Desk

SB1 – Morse/Stephens: *School Safety Resource Center*, Passed and to be signed May 13, 2008

SJR08-007 – Kopp/Stephens: *Celebrating Ronald Reagan Day*

SJR08-019 – McElhany/Stephens: *Honoring Jeanne Asam*

SJR08-23 – Cadman/Stephens: *Honoring Space Day*