

Wayne Allard

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COLORADO SPRINGS TO GET \$200,000 FOR METROPOLITAN MEDICAL RESPONSE SYSTEM STATE OF COLORADO TO RECEIVE \$16 MILLION TO FIGHT BIOTERRORISM

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) today announced the City of Colorado Springs will receive \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for a Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) plan. The State of Colorado will receive \$16 million to fight bioterrorism.

“This money is extremely important in assisting Colorado Springs with its on-going efforts to combat bioterrorism,” said Allard.

The HHS Office of Emergency Preparedness will allocate the \$200,000 to Colorado Springs to help the city improve local support system needs in responding to possible chemical or biological agents and mass casualty situations. Colorado Springs was one of 25 U.S. cities chosen for the MMRS designated status due to its population.

In addition to the \$200,000 for Colorado Springs, the State of Colorado will get \$16 million to develop comprehensive bioterrorism preparedness plans and to expand existing programs to enhance community response. Of the \$16 million, \$14 million will be used to create and carry out a statewide plan to respond to bioterrorism attacks and outbreaks of infectious disease. The remaining \$2 million will be used by hospitals to create regional plans to deal with potential outbreaks or attacks.

“Hospitals, local governments and health departments play a key role in fighting the outbreak of infectious diseases and working to prevent terrorist attacks,” added Allard.

The \$16 million for Colorado is part of the \$2.9 billion allocated for bioterrorism in the defense appropriations bill that Congress passed in December. Each state was given a base \$5 million and additional funds based on its share of the total U.S. population.

