

# The American Legion

Fall Meeting of the  
National Executive Committee  
Wed-Thu, Oct 14-15, 2020



## **Resolutions**

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE October 14-15, 2020  
REGISTER OF RESOLUTIONS

Number	Title	Origin	Meeting	Date referred	Referred to:
2760	KOREAN "UNKNOWN WAR" MEMORIAL	MI	DC	October 24, 2018	INAF
2768	OPPOSE RESTRICTION OR DISCONTINUATION OF EFFECTIVE AND NECESSARY MEDICATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS	CA	DC	October 8, 2019	VA&R
2769	DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS DRUG PRICING POLICY	CA	DC	October 8, 2019	VA&R
2770	OPPOSE EXCLUSION OF TRANSGENDER AMERICANS FROM THE MILITARY	CA	DC	October 8, 2019	SEC
2771	STELLATE GANGLION BLOCK RESEARCH FOR TREATMENT OF POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER	CA	DC	October 8, 2019	VA&R
2772	POST 9/11 TRANSFER OF EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS	CA	DEC	October 8, 2019	VEE
2773	MARE ISLAND NAVAL CEMETERY	CA	DC	October 8, 2019	VA&R
2774	EXPANDING AND BETTER UTILIZING SERVICES FOR VETERANS	CA	DC	October 8, 2019	VA&R
2775	SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS USE OF PERSONALIZED REPETITIVE TRANSCRANIAL MAGNETIC STIMULATION	CA	DC	October 8, 2019	VA&R
2776	ENDORSEMENT OF MARY ERDMAN FOR NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER	AR	DEC	October 28, 2019	INAF
2777	ENDORSEMENT OF PATRICIA A. HARRIS FOR NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER	NC	DEC	October 28, 2019	INAF
2778	FUNDING FOR PROTECTION OF THE NATIONAL POWER GRID AGAINST ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE ATTACK	IL	DC	January 7, 2020	SEC
2779	REMOVE ASSIGNED TOPICS FROM ORATORICAL CONTEST	AR	DEC	January 23, 2020	AMER
2780	DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY LEADERSHIP IN ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE PREPAREDNESS	MT	DEC	January 30, 2020	SEC
2781	ENDORSEMENT OF TIMOTHY W. SMITH FOR NATIONAL COMMANDER	OK	DEC	January 30, 2020	INAF
2782	ENDORSEMENT OF JUAN R. TORRES FOR NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION	TX	DEC	February 12, 2020	INAF
2783	CITY OF COLUMBUS OFFERS TO HOST THE 2027 NATIONAL CONVENTION	OH	DEC	June 16, 2020	CONV
2784	ADD VETERANS TREATMENT COURT QUESTIONS TO THE CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT	OH	DEC	June 16, 2020	INAF
2785	ADD FOUR CHAPLAINS EXHIBIT AT THE NATIONAL VETERANS MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM	OH	DEC	June 16, 2020	INAF
2786	ENDORSEMENT OF MATTHEW D. JABAUT FOR NATIONAL COMMANDER	ME	DEC	July 21, 2020	INAF
2787	2021 ELIGIBILITY FOR BOYS STATE AND BOYS NATION	CO	DEC	August 5, 2020	AMER
2788	SURVIVOR BENEFITS AND COVID-19	NY	DEC	August 24, 2020	VA&R
2789	DIGITALLY CREATED YEARBOOK CATEGORY FOR THE NATIONAL HISTORY CONTESTS	CA	DEC	August 24, 2020	INAF
2790	CHILD CARE AT VET CENTERS	CA	DEC	August 24, 2020	VA&R
2791	ESTABLISH COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION IN ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE DEFENSE	MT	DEC	August 25, 2020	SEC
2792	UPDATE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AEROSPACE COMMITTEE	MT	DEC	August 25, 2020	SEC
2793	ESTABLISH COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE PURPOSE AND COMMITTEE STRUCTURE OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION	MT	DEC	August 25, 2020	SEC
2794	AIR FORCE PROCUREMENT OF B-21S	MT	DEC	August 25, 2020	SEC
2795	UPDATES TO CHAPLAINS HILL MONUMENTS AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY	VA	DC	September 17, 2020	VA&R
2796	SUPPORT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES	CT	DEC	September 24, 2020	SEC

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020  
Resolution

No.: 1

Title: Revisions of the Rules of the National Executive Committee of The American Legion

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

WHEREAS, The National Executive Committee of The American Legion is very careful and cautious in the drafting of its "Rules of the National Executive Committee" ("Rules"); and

WHEREAS, A complete and thorough review of the Rules is in order; and

WHEREAS, Since this last review numerous changes have taken place within The American Legion, including but not limited to, amending the National Constitution and Nation By-Laws of The American Legion, the election of Past National Commander Denise Rohan, and the election of numerous female national vice commanders and other national officers and the occurrence of the nationwide pandemic known as COVID-19 which subsequently caused the cancellation of untold number of American Legion meetings and events; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the National Executive Committee revises the "Rules of the National Executive Committee of The American Legion" ("Rules") to read as attached hereto; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That these revised Rules supersedes and amends any national resolution to the contrary.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

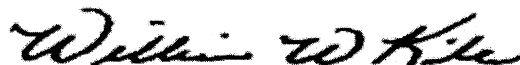
Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions

**RULES OF THE  
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
of  
The American Legion**

*Originally ~~A~~ adopted by the  
National Executive Committee  
November 21-22, 1940*

Revised ~~May 9-10, 2012~~ October 14 – 15, 2020

Rules of the  
National Executive Committee  
Adopted November 21-22, 1940

Amended as follows:

May 1-2, 1941  
December 13-15, 1945  
November 18-20, 1948  
May 4-6, 1949  
November 17-19, 1950  
November 18-20, 1951  
May 4-5, 1960  
May 1-2, 1963  
October 9-10, 1974  
May 3-4, 1976  
October 12-13, 1988  
May 7-8, 2008  
October 12-13, 2011  
May 9-10, 2012  
October 14 – 15, 2020

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## RULES OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following “R rules of the National Executive Committee” (“Rules”) are based upon the report of the Special Code of Procedure Subcommittee of the National Executive Committee, as adopted at the November 21-22, 1940, meeting, to take effect ten days from the date of such adoption, and amended at the May 1-2, 1941; December 13-15, 1945; November 18-20, 1948; May 4-6, 1949; November 17-19, 1950; November 18-20, 1951; May 4-5, 1960; May 1-2, 1963; October 9-10, 1974; May 3-4, 1976; October 12-13, 1988; May 7-8, 2008; October 12-13, 2011; ~~and~~ May 9-10, 2012 and October 14-15, 2020 meetings of † The American Legion National Executive Committee.

Daniel S. Wheeler  
National Adjutant

### **Rule 1** **Self-Governing**

#### **\*Previous\***

The National Executive Committee of The American Legion, as provided by the National Constitution of The American Legion, shall be a self-governing committee and transact business in accordance with the rules hereinafter set forth, subject only to the Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion and mandates of the National Conventions.

#### **\*Updated\***

The National Executive Committee of The American Legion (“Committee”), ~~as provided by~~ defined in the National Constitution and National By-Laws of The American Legion (“C&BLs”), shall be a self-governing committee and transact business in accordance with the rules hereinafter set forth, subject only to the Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion and ~~mandates~~ resolutions of the National Conventions of The American Legion (“Convention”) and Committee meetings.

#### **\*New\***

The National Executive Committee of The American Legion (“Committee”), as defined in the National Constitution and National By-Laws of The American Legion (“C&BLs”), shall be a self-governing committee and transact business in accordance with the rules hereinafter set forth, subject only to the Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion and resolutions of the National Conventions of The American Legion (“Convention”) and Committee meetings.

## **Rule 2**

### **Officers**

#### **\*Previous\***

The National Commander shall be the Chairman of the National Executive Committee, and the National Adjutant shall serve as Secretary. Any temporary vacancies, in such offices of Chairman and Secretary, shall be filled by action of the Committee, for the respective meeting in which the vacancy occurs.

#### **\*Updated\***

The ~~N~~ national ~~C~~ commander shall be the ~~Chairman~~ of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee, and the ~~N~~ national ~~A~~ adjutant shall serve as Secretary. Any temporary vacancies, in such offices of ~~Chairman~~ and Secretary, shall be filled by action of the Committee, for the respective meeting in which the vacancy occurs.

#### **\*New\***

The national commander shall be the Chair of the Committee, and the national adjutant shall serve as Secretary. Any temporary vacancies, in such offices of Chair and Secretary shall be filled by action of the Committee for the respective meeting in which the vacancy occurs.

### **Rule 3**

#### **Duties and Powers Powers and Rights**

##### **\*Previous\***

The National Executive Committee is specifically empowered to exercise the following powers and rights, and may delegate to any subcommittee composed of members of the National Executive Committee authority to investigate and report back to the Committee on any of the following powers and rights:

a. To make decisions on all matters, executive or administrative: Provided, however, That the said action so taken shall not be contrary to, nor in derogation of, actions of the National Convention, except as provided by the resolution adopted at the Cleveland National Convention in 1936, as follows:

“Resolved, That any policy adopted by the National Organization of The American Legion by convention action shall be a mandate during the year of its adoption and thereafter shall continue as the national policy of the National Organization unless changed by subsequent Convention action or by action of the National Executive Committee,” except that mandates pertaining to legislative action by the Congress of the United States shall be effective only to the date of final adjournment of the Congress during which such resolutions were adopted by a National Convention or the National Executive Committee, except that resolutions passed at the National Convention or the National Executive Committee meeting preceding the convening of a new Congress shall be effective until the adjournment of such new Congress.

b. To determine the number of members of all National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the National Executive Committee created by the National Commander not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion or the National Executive Committee and to ratify the appointments made by the National Commander. Such National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the National Executive Committee shall receive full instructions from the National Executive Committee by resolution specifying their purpose, scope, function and authority, and each National Commission Board or Subcommittee of the National Executive Committee which has met since the last meeting of the National Executive Committee and at least three weeks prior to the next ensuing meeting of the National Executive Committee shall prepare preliminary reports for distribution by the National Adjutant to members of the National Executive Committee preceding any meeting, regular or special.

c. Upon any report made to the National Executive Committee by any National Commission, National Committee, Boards or Subcommittee of the National Executive Committee and containing any recommendation as to the future conduct, or as to the future policy of matters within their scope, the receiving, accepting or approval of such report shall not mean the adoption of such recommendations and each specific recommendation as to future conduct, or as to future policy, shall be embodied in a separate resolution for the consideration and action of the National Executive Committee.

d. To make decisions when necessary, relative to expenditures for which appropriations have been made by the National Executive Committee and to make emergency appropriations necessary to implement action by the National Executive Committee.

e. To make appropriations from funds not otherwise appropriated of such additional amounts as may be recognized as emergency requirements.

f. To explore matters requiring the attention of the National Executive Committee and offer recommendations thereon to the National Executive Committee.

g. To advise the officers, or National Commissions, with regard to problems arising in the performance of their duties or functions.

h. In general, to perform between National Conventions\_ any and all actions necessary and consistent with the exercise of administrative power by the ~~National Executive~~ Committee.



**\*Updated\***

The ~~National Executive~~ Committee is specifically empowered to exercise the following powers and rights, and may delegate to any national commander's appointed subcommittee that is composed of members of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee the authority to investigate and report back to the Committee on any of the following powers and rights:

~~a-~~ A. To make decisions on all matters, executive or administrative; ~~P;~~ provided, however, ~~T~~ that the said action so taken shall not be contrary to, nor in derogation of, actions of the ~~National~~ Convention, except as provided by the resolution adopted at the Cleveland National Convention in 1936, as follows:

“Resolved, That any policy adopted by the National Organization of The American Legion by convention action shall be a mandate during the year of its adoption and thereafter shall continue as the national policy of the National Organization unless changed by subsequent Convention action or by action of the National Executive Committee,” except that mandates pertaining to legislative action by the Congress of the United States shall be effective only to the date of final adjournment of the Congress during which such resolutions were adopted by a National Convention or the National Executive Committee, except that resolutions passed at the National Convention or the National Executive Committee meeting preceding the convening of a new Congress shall be effective until the adjournment of such new Congress.

~~b~~ B. To determine the number of members of all National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee created by the ~~N~~ national C ~~commander~~ commander not in conflict with the ~~Constitution and By Laws of The American Legion C&BLs~~ or the ~~National Executive~~ Committee and to ratify the appointments made by the National Commander. Such National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall receive full instructions from the ~~National Executive~~ Committee by resolution specifying their purpose, scope, function and authority, and each National Commission, National Committee, Board or Subcommittee of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee which has met since the last meeting of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee and at least three weeks prior to the next ensuing meeting of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall prepare preliminary reports for distribution by the ~~N~~ national A ~~adjutant~~ adjutant to members of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee preceding any meeting, regular or special.

~~e-~~ C. Upon any report made to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee by any National Commission, National Committee, Boards or Subcommittee of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee and containing any recommendation as to the future conduct, or as to the future policy of matters within their scope, the receiving, accepting or approval of such report shall not mean the adoption of such recommendations and each specific recommendation as to future conduct, or as to future policy, shall be embodied in a separate resolution for the consideration and action of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee and/or Convention.

~~d-~~ D. To make the financial decisions when necessary, relative to expenditures for which appropriations have been made by the ~~National Executive~~ Committee and to make emergency appropriations necessary to implement action by the ~~National Executive~~ Committee.

~~e-~~ E. To make appropriations from funds not otherwise appropriated of such additional amounts as may be recognized as emergency requirements.

~~f-~~ F. To explore matters requiring the attention of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee and offer recommendations thereon to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee.

~~g-~~ G. To advise the national officers, or National Commissions, with regard to problems arising in the performance of their respective duties or functions.

~~h-~~ H. In general, to perform between ~~National~~ Conventions, any, and all, actions necessary and consistent with the exercise of administrative power by the ~~National Executive~~ Committee.

**\*New\***

The Committee is specifically empowered to exercise the following powers and rights and may delegate to any national commander's appointed subcommittee that is composed of members of the Committee the authority to investigate and report back to the Committee on any of the following powers and rights:

A. To make decisions on all matters, executive or administrative provided, however, that said action taken shall not be contrary to, nor in derogation of, actions of the Convention, except as provided by the resolution adopted at the Cleveland National Convention in 1936, as follows:

“Resolved, That any policy adopted by the National Organization of The American Legion by convention action shall be a mandate during the year of its adoption and thereafter shall continue as the national policy of the National Organization unless changed by subsequent Convention action or by action of the National Executive Committee,” except that mandates pertaining to legislative action by the Congress of the United States shall be effective only to the date of final adjournment of the Congress during which such resolutions were adopted by a National Convention or the National Executive Committee, except that resolutions passed at the National Convention or the National Executive Committee meeting preceding the convening of a new Congress shall be effective until the adjournment of such new Congress.

B. To determine the number of members of all National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the Committee created by the national commander not in conflict with the C&BLs or the Committee and to ratify the appointments made by the national commander. Such National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the Committee shall receive full instructions from the Committee by resolution specifying their purpose, scope, function and authority, and each National Commission, National Committee, Board or Subcommittee of the Committee which has met since the last meeting of the Committee and at least three weeks prior to the next ensuing meeting of the Committee shall prepare preliminary reports for distribution by the national adjutant to members of the Committee preceding any meeting, regular or special.

C. Upon any report made to the Committee by any National Commission, National Committee, Boards or Subcommittee of the Committee and containing any recommendation as to the future conduct, or as to the future policy of matters within their scope, the receiving, accepting or approval of such report shall not mean the adoption of such recommendations and each specific recommendation as to future conduct, or as to future policy, shall be embodied in a resolution for the consideration and action of the Committee and/or Convention.

D. To make the financial decisions when necessary, relative to expenditures for which appropriations have been made by the Committee and to make emergency appropriations necessary to implement action by the Committee.

E. To make appropriations from funds not otherwise appropriated of such additional amounts as may be recognized as emergency requirements.

F. To explore matters requiring the attention of the Committee and offer recommendations thereon to the Committee.

G. To advise the national officers, or National Commissions, with regard to problems arising in the performance of their respective duties or functions.

H. In general, to perform between Conventions, any, and all, actions necessary and consistent with the exercise of administrative power by the Committee.

## Rule 4

### Powers of the Committee Over Its Members

#### **\*Previous\***

- a. If a quorum is not present, the National Commander may order a call of the National Executive Committee and send for the absentee.
- b. In the case a less number than a quorum of the National Executive Committee shall convene, those present are hereby authorized to send the Sergeant-at-Arms, or any other person or persons by them authorized, for any and all absent members present within the city where the meeting is being held. And this rule shall apply, as well to the first meeting of the National Executive Committee at the legal time of the meeting, as to each day of the session, after the hour has arrived, to which the National Executive Committee stood adjourned.

#### **\*Updated\***

- ~~a.~~ A. If a quorum, as defined in the C&BLs, is not present, the ~~N~~ national ~~C~~ commander may order a call-in of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee and send for the absentees Committee Members.
- ~~b.~~ B. In the case a less number than a quorum of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall convene, those present are hereby authorized to send the Sergeant-at-Arms, or any other person or persons by them authorized, for any and all absent Committee m Members present within the city where the meeting is being held. ~~And~~ + This rule shall apply, ~~as well to the first meeting of the National Executive Committee at the legal time of the meeting, as to each day of the session,~~ and until after the hour has arrived, to which the ~~National Executive~~ Committee stood adjourned.

#### **\*New\***

- A. If a quorum, as defined in the C&BLs, is not present, the national commander may order a call-in of the Committee and send for the absentee Committee Members.
- B. In the case a less number than a quorum of the Committee shall convene, those present are hereby authorized to send the Sergeant-at-Arms, or any other person or persons by them authorized, for any and all absent Committee Members present within the city where the meeting is being held. This rule shall apply to the meeting of the Committee at the legal time of the meeting, as to each day of the session and until after the hour has arrived to which the Committee stood adjourned.

## Rule 5 Decorum

### \*Previous\*

- a. No member of the National Executive Committee, or other person except the Secretary and his assistants, shall visit or remain by the Secretary's table while the yeas and nays are being called or counted.
- b. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave of the National Executive Committee; nor more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.
- c. While the Commander is reporting or putting a question, none shall entertain private discourse, read, stand up, walk into, out of, or across the National Executive Committee room.
- d. No question shall be debated until it has been propounded by the Chair, and then the mover shall have the right to explain his views, in preference to any other member.
- e. While the Commander is putting the question, any member who has not spoken before to the matter may speak to the question before the negative is put.
- f. During any debate, any National Executive Committeeman, though he has spoken to the matter, may arise and speak to the orders of the National Executive Committee if they be transgressed, in case the Commander does not; but if the Commander stands up at any time, he is first to be heard.
- g. Whenever the National Executive Committeemen and the Alternate National Executive Committeemen from any Department shall be absent from any meeting or session of the National Executive Committee, the courtesy of the floor may be granted to an accredited representative of the Department not represented; provided, however, that the right to vote shall not be transferred or delegated.
- h. Whenever a division of vote is to be determined on any question before the National Executive Committee, the Presiding Officer may determine division by:
  1. Viva Voce vote, with right of recourse to a "teller vote" or "roll call vote" as hereinafter provided.
  2. A teller vote whereby the yeas and nays may be counted by a rising vote with recourse to a roll call vote as hereinafter provided.
  3. A roll call vote may be directed by the Presiding Officer to determine a division of vote on any question. A roll call vote shall be taken upon the request of three members.
  4. On any Viva Voce vote or teller vote, any member of the National Executive Committee shall have his vote recorded upon his request.

### \*Updated\*

- ~~a. A.~~ No member of the National Executive Committee, or other person except the Secretary and his the assistant(s), shall visit or remain by the Secretary's table while the yeas and nays are being called or counted.
- ~~b. B.~~ No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave of the National Executive Committee; nor speak more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.
- ~~c. C.~~ While the national C commander is reporting or putting forth the a question, ~~none~~ no one shall entertain private discourse, read, stand up, walk into, out of, or across the ~~National Executive~~ Committee room.
- ~~d. D.~~ No question shall be debated until it has been ~~propounded~~ repeated by the Chair, and then the proponent's mover shall have the right to explain his one's views, in preference to any other member.
- ~~e. E.~~ While the national C commander is putting forth the question, any member who has not spoken before to the matter may speak to the question before the negative is put forth.
- ~~f. F.~~ During any debate, any ~~National Executive Committeeman~~ Committee Member, though ~~he~~ having has spoken to the matter, may arise and speak to the orders of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee if they be transgressed, in case the national C commander does not; but if the national C commander stands up at any time, ~~he the national commander~~ is first to be heard.
- ~~g. G.~~ Whenever the ~~National Executive Committeemen~~ Committee Member and the Alternate ~~National Executive Committeemen~~ Committee Member from any ~~D~~ department shall be absent from any meeting or session of the

~~National Executive~~ Committee, the courtesy of the floor may be granted to an accredited representative of the ~~D~~ department not represented; provided, however, that the right to vote shall not be transferred or delegated.

~~H.~~ H. Whenever a division of vote is to be determined on any question before the ~~National Executive~~ Committee, the Presiding Officer may determine division by:

1. Viva Voce vote, with right of recourse to a “teller vote” or “roll call vote” as hereinafter provided~~;~~ or
2. A teller vote, whereby the yeas and nays may be counted by a rising vote with recourse to a roll call vote as hereinafter provided~~;~~ or
3. A roll call vote may be directed by the Presiding Officer to determine a division of vote on any question. A roll call vote shall be taken upon the request of three Committee members.
4. On any Viva Voce vote or teller vote, any member of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall have ~~his~~ their vote recorded upon ~~his~~ one's request.
5. If the Meeting is held under Rule 13 the electronic method so used by the internet meeting service may also be used.

I. If there is no division of vote on a question and/or objection to a motion before the Committee, the Presiding Officer may pass the matter by unanimous consent.

**\*New\***

- A. No member of the Committee, or other person except the Secretary and the assistant(s), shall visit or remain by the Secretary's table while the yeas and nays are being called or counted.
- B. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave of the Committee; nor speak more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.
- C. While the national commander is reporting or putting forth the question, no one shall entertain private discourse, read, stand up, walk into, out of, or across the Committee room.
- D. No question shall be debated until it has been repeated by the Chair, and then the proponent's mover shall have the right to explain one's views, in preference to any other member.
- E. While the national commander is putting forth the question, any member who has not spoken before to the matter may speak to the question before the negative is put forth.
- F. During any debate, any Committee Member, though having has spoken to the matter, may arise and speak to the orders of the Committee if they be transgressed, in case the national commander does not; but if the national commander stands up at any time, the national commander is first to be heard.
- G. Whenever the Committee Member and the Alternate Committee Member from any department shall be absent from any meeting or session of the Committee, the courtesy of the floor may be granted to an accredited representative of the department not represented; provided, however, that the right to vote shall not be transferred or delegated.
- H. Whenever a division of vote is to be determined on any question before the Committee, the Presiding Officer may determine division by:
  1. Viva Voce vote, with right of recourse to a “teller vote” or “roll call vote” as hereinafter provided; or
  2. A teller vote, whereby the yeas and nays may be counted by a rising vote with recourse to a roll call vote as hereinafter provided; or
  3. A roll call vote may be directed by the Presiding Officer to determine a division of vote on any question. A roll call vote shall be taken upon the request of three Committee members.
  4. On any Viva Voce vote or teller vote, any member of the Committee shall have their vote recorded upon one's request.
  5. If the Meeting is held under Rule 13 the electronic method so used by the internet meeting service may also be used.
- I. If there is no division of vote on a question and/or objection to a motion before the Committee, the Presiding Officer may pass the matter by unanimous consent.

## **Rule 6**

### **Committee of the Whole**

#### **\*Previous\***

- a. When the National Executive Committee shall resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole, the Commander shall leave the chair and appoint a chairman to preside over the Committee of the Whole.
- b. The Committee of the Whole shall consider and report on such subjects as may be committed to it by the National Executive Committee. The rules of the National Executive Committee shall be observed in the Committee of the Whole so far as they are applicable, except the rule limiting the time of speaking, concerning the previous question, and taking the yeas and nays. The proceedings in the Committee of the Whole shall not be recorded on the minutes of the National Executive Committee, excepting so far as they are reported to the National Executive Committee by the chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

#### **\*Updated\***

- ~~a.~~ A. When the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall ~~resolve itself~~ enter into the Committee of the Whole, the ~~national~~ e commander shall leave the ~~e~~ Chair and appoint a ~~e~~ Chairman to preside over the Committee of the Whole.
- ~~b.~~ B. The Committee of the Whole shall consider and report on such subjects as may be committed to it by the ~~National Executive~~ Committee. The rules of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall be observed in the Committee of the Whole so far as they are applicable, except the rule limiting the time of speaking, concerning the previous question, and taking the yeas and nays. The proceedings in the Committee of the Whole shall not be recorded ~~on~~ in the minutes of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee, excepting so far as they are reported to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee by the ~~e~~ Chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

#### **\*New\***

- A. When the Committee shall enter into the Committee of the Whole, the national commander shall leave the Chair and appoint a Chair to preside over the Committee of the Whole.
- B. The Committee of the Whole shall consider and report on such subjects as may be committed to it by the Committee. The rules of the Committee shall be observed in the Committee of the Whole so far as they are applicable, except the rule limiting the time of speaking, concerning the previous question and taking the yeas and nays. The proceedings in the Committee of the Whole shall not be recorded in the minutes of the Committee, excepting so far as they are reported to the Committee by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

## **Rule 7**

### **Order of Business**

#### **\*Previous\***

The order of business of the National Executive Committee shall be:

1. Salute to Colors
2. The Invocation
3. POW-MIA Remembrance Ceremony
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Preamble
6. Roll Call
7. Read the minutes of the former meeting
8. Dispose of letters or communications
9. Receive reports from National Officers of The American Legion
10. Receive reports from National Commissions, National Committees, Boards and Subcommittees of the National Executive Committee
11. Receive resolutions, motions and petitions
12. Act upon unfinished business of the preceding day and resolutions lying over from the previous day
13. Appointments of members of standing or special Commissions, Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the National Executive Committee
14. Miscellaneous business
15. Benediction
16. Salute to Colors.

#### **\*Updated\***

The order of business of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall be:

1. Salute to Colors
2. The Invocation
3. POW-MIA Remembrance Ceremony
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Preamble
6. Roll Call
7. Adopt the meeting's agenda
- ~~7.~~ 8. Read the minutes of the former meeting
- ~~8.~~ 9. Dispose of letters or communications
- ~~9.~~ 10. Receive reports from National Officers of The American Legion
- ~~10.~~ 11. Receive reports from National Commissions, National Committees, Boards and Subcommittees of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee
- ~~11.~~ 12. Receive resolutions, motions and petitions
- ~~12.~~ 13. Act upon unfinished business of the preceding day and resolutions lying over from the previous day
- ~~13.~~ 14. Appointments of members of standing or special Commissions, Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee
- ~~14.~~ 15. Miscellaneous business
- ~~15.~~ 16. Benediction
- ~~16.~~ 17. Salute to Colors.

#### **\*New\***

The order of business of the Committee shall be:

1. Salute to Colors

2. The Invocation
3. POW-MIA Remembrance Ceremony
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Preamble
6. Roll Call
7. Adopt the meeting's agenda
8. Read the minutes of the former meeting
9. Dispose of letters or communications
10. Receive reports from National Officers of The American Legion
11. Receive reports from National Commissions, National Committees, Boards and Subcommittees of the Committee
12. Receive resolutions, motions and petitions
13. Act upon unfinished business of the preceding day and resolutions lying over from the previous day
14. Appointments of members of standing or special Commissions, Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the Committee
15. Miscellaneous business
16. Benediction
17. Salute to Colors.



## **Rule 8-a**

### **Fiscal Policy**

#### **\*Previous\***

All matters of business affecting the fiscal policy of The American Legion, or financial matters outside the scope of mandates of the National Convention, including the making, cancellation, abrogation or modification of any contract to which the National Organization is a party, shall be considered under a first and second reading, with not less than four hours intervening. The second reading of the said matter so presented shall be held not less than four hours after the first reading of the matter under submission, and it shall be required that the subject matter, i.e., the motion or resolution or report be printed, typewritten or mimeographed, and a copy thereof placed on the desk of each National Executive Committeeman attending said meeting, at the time of the first reading, for the purpose of consideration of such motion, resolution, or report between the first and second reading. Final action shall be taken only upon the second reading thereof; Provided, however, That matters and resolutions approved by and contained in the report of the National Finance Commission with favorable recommendation for immediate action may be considered at the time of the report of said National Finance Commission.

#### **\*Updated\***

All ~~business~~ matters of business affecting the fiscal policy of The American Legion, or financial matters outside the scope of mandates of the National Convention, including the making, cancellation, abrogation or modification of any contract to which the National Organization is a party, shall be considered under a first and second reading, with not less than four hours intervening. The second reading of the said matter so presented shall be held not less than four hours after the first reading of the said matter under submission, and it shall be required that the subject matter, i.e., the motion or resolution or report be printed, ~~typewritten or mimeographed~~, and a copy thereof placed on the desk of each ~~National Executive Committeeman~~ Committee Member attending said meeting, at the time of the first reading, for the purpose of consideration of such motion, resolution, or report between the first and second reading. If the Meeting is held under Rule 13 the necessary documents per this Rule shall be provided to all Committee Members by e-mail. Final action shall be taken only upon the second reading thereof; ~~P~~rovided, however, ~~T~~hat matters and resolutions approved by and contained in the report of the National Finance Commission with favorable recommendation for immediate action may be considered at the time of the report of said National Finance Commission.

#### **\*New\***

All business matters affecting the fiscal policy of The American Legion, or financial matters outside the scope of mandates of the National Convention, including the making, cancellation, abrogation or modification of any contract to which the National Organization is a party, shall be considered under a first and second reading, with not less than four hours intervening. The second reading of said matter so presented shall be held not less than four hours after the first reading of said matter under submission, and it shall be required that the subject matter, i.e., the motion or resolution or report be printed and a copy thereof placed on the desk of each Committee Member attending said meeting, at the time of the first reading, for the purpose of consideration of such motion, resolution, or report between the first and second reading. If the Meeting is held under Rule 13 the necessary documents per this Rule shall be provided to all Committee Members by e-mail. Final action shall be taken only upon the second reading thereof; provided, however, that matters and resolutions approved by and contained in the report of the National Finance Commission with favorable recommendation for immediate action may be considered at the time of the report of said National Finance Commission.

**Rule 8-b**  
**Legislative Program**

**\*Previous\***

Any resolution adopted by the National Convention or the National Executive Committee, which seeks action by the Congress of the United States, or is a legislative policy statement of The American Legion, shall upon its adoption immediately become part of The American Legion's Legislative Program, and shall remain in full force and effect only during the life of the Congress to which it relates. The National Legislative Commission shall compile such resolutions and make the current compilation part of its report to the National Executive Committee for the sole purpose of establishing an orderly historical record of resolutions stating legislative policy and/or requiring legislative action.

**NOTE:** All prior versions of Rule 8-b of the Rules of the National Executive Committee are, hereby, superseded and rescinded.

**\*Updated\***

Any resolution adopted by the National Convention of The American Legion, or the National Executive Committee, which seeks intending congressional action by the United States Congress of the United States, or is a legislative policy statement of The American Legion, shall upon its adoption immediately become part of The American Legion's Legislative Program, and shall remain in full force and effect only during the life of the United States Congress to which it relates. The National Legislative Commission shall compile such resolutions and make the current compilation part of its report to the National Executive Committee for the sole purpose of establishing an orderly historical record of resolutions stating legislative policy and/or requiring legislative action.

~~**NOTE:** All prior versions of Rule 8-b of the Rules of the National Executive Committee are, hereby, superseded and rescinded.~~

**\*New\***

Any resolution adopted by the National Convention of The American Legion, or the Committee, intending congressional action by the United States Congress shall upon its adoption immediately become part of The American Legion's Legislative Program and shall remain in full force and effect only during the life of the United States Congress to which it relates. The National Legislative Commission shall compile such resolutions and make the current compilation part of its report to the Committee for the sole purpose of establishing an orderly historical record of resolutions requiring legislative action.

## **Rule 9 Procedure**

### **\*Previous\***

a. Letters and communications addressed to the National Executive Committee or to the National Commander, the National Adjutant or any other National Officer and by them referred to the National Executive Committee shall be read (or published to the members, if such be of import by the National Adjutant. Such letters or communications shall be disposed of in one of the following ways:

1. By a motion to accept. Such a motion shall have the effect of approving the subject matter and should include specific instructions for further disposition, i.e., by directions of the National Commander, National Adjutant or other proper officer; by reference to an appropriate Commission or Committee or other proper instruction.

2. By a motion to receive and file. Such a motion shall denote neither approval nor disapproval of the subject matter and shall require no action on the part of National Officers or others beyond a formal reply should such be required.

3. By a motion to reject or decline. Such a motion shall mean disapproval and should include specific instructions for further disposition as contemplated in paragraph 1 above.

b. Reports of officers shall be acted upon directly by the National Executive Committee, except that by direction of the National Executive Committee a report of any officer may be referred to a Subcommittee of the National Executive Committee for study and report thereon: Provided, however, That such reference shall not continue beyond the meeting of the National Executive Committee to which such officer's report is first submitted.

Reports of officers shall not be altered or amended by the National Executive Committee nor may any such report be rejected. In the event that the National Executive Committee shall not agree with the report or any statement herein contained, then, and in such event, if the presiding officer or the Executive Committee so determines, a separate memorandum shall be prepared setting forth the objections, which such memorandum, if approved by the National Executive Committee, shall be filed with the report. Any such memorandum, when submitted, shall be subject to amendment.

Reports of officers shall be disposed by motions as follows:

1. To approve the report. Such action shall constitute approval of the statements made in the report.

2. To disapprove the report. Such motion shall have the effect of disapproving any or all statements of the report, but such motion shall prevail only in the event that a memorandum setting forth the objections to such report shall have been adopted.

3. To receive and file the report. Such action shall constitute only a routine disposition of the report. A negative vote on motions 1 and 2 shall automatically cause the report to be received and filed.

c. Reports of National Commissions shall include a report of the National Committees assigned to them, except that for good reasons by direction of the National Commander a National Committee may report direct to the National Executive Committee.

Reports of National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the National Executive Committee shall be received and shall then be subject to disposition on the following motions:

1. To approve the report. Such action shall constitute approval of the statements made in the report subject to the procedure outlined in Rule 3-c of the rules of this committee.

2. To receive and file the report. Such action shall constitute only a routine disposition of the report.

3. To re-commit the report. Such action shall return the report to the Commission or the Committee of origin for further study and report and may be accompanied by specific instructions.

4. To commit the report to a special Subcommittee of the National Executive Committee. Such action shall contemplate specific study and such Subcommittee shall return the report with recommendations.

5. To commit to the Committee of the Whole. Upon adoption of such a motion, the National Executive Committee shall resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole and may thereafter alter or amend the report in whole or in part.

The results of such action, however, shall again be submitted to the National Executive Committee for final disposition.

A negative vote on motion 1 shall automatically cause the report to be received and filed.

d. Any member of the National Executive Committee shall be privileged to present a resolution in his own right in any of the following ways:

1. Under a proper order of business, in which case of the subject matter thereof shall be germane.
2. Under miscellaneous business.
3. Upon unanimous consent of the Committee at any session of the National Executive Committee, at an appropriate interval in the order of business.
4. Under a suspension of the rules.

e. All National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the National Executive Committee shall be required to present in resolution form all recommendations as to their future conduct or future policy as to matters within their scope and functions upon which it is desired or required that the National Executive Committee take action as contemplated in Rule 3, paragraph c. Such resolutions shall be filed with the Subcommittee on Resolutions prior to the first session of any meeting of the National Executive Committee at which action thereon is contemplated.

The Subcommittee on Resolutions shall report such resolutions to the National Executive Committee with appropriate recommendations immediately following the disposition of the report of the National Commission or Committee concerned.

f. Matters emanating from Posts, Departments or other sources and from the American Legion Auxiliary shall be defined and classified as:

#### 1. LEGION-SPONSORED MATTERS

a. Resolutions of properly constituted American Legion organizations, to wit: Posts and intermediate bodies (which have been approved by their Department Convention or Department Executive Committee), Department Executive Committee, Department Convention, National Convention or resolutions submitted by any National Commission or Committee.

b. Resolutions emanating from the National Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary or any other official component thereof.

c. Official communications of the National Officers of The American Legion.

#### 2. OFFICIAL MATTERS

Official Matters are those which originate with American Legion officers or officials such as Commanders or other officers of Posts, intermediate bodies, Departments or the President of the National Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary.

#### 3. GENERAL MATTERS

General matters are those which originate with individual members of The American Legion, individual citizens or as a result of communications for organizations or their officials not affiliated with The American Legion or from agencies of Government. Such matters shall be disposed of as follows:

Whenever matters or communications are received at the National Headquarters of The American Legion, the National Adjutant shall analyze the subject matter and take action in one or more of the following ways:

a. Determine, in accordance with his good judgment, whether or not such matter or communication is basically administrative in nature, and if so, refer the matter to the appropriate Administrator, Director, or Executive for disposition.

b. If in the judgment of the National Adjutant the subject matter be of primary concern to or related to a program or function of one of the National Commissions, he shall refer the same to the appropriate Commission for action or for consideration by the Commission looking toward presentation to the National Executive Committee.

c. Matters which do not fall within the above classifications, or which in the opinion of the National Commander or the National Adjutant, involve questions of organizational policy of sufficient importance to be considered directly by the National Executive Committee shall be referred to the Subcommittee on Resolutions of the National Executive Committee for disposition.

d. The National Executive Committee, with the exception of the latitude in paragraph c above, will directly consider only matters which bear the prior approval of a Department Convention or Department Executive Committee, or referred to it by the National Convention, or which may be recommended to it by the National Commander, or be presented to it through the governing body of the American Legion Auxiliary. All other matters, as hereinbefore defined, which do not have the sponsorship specified in this paragraph may become eligible for consideration by the National Executive Committee only in the event that they have been recommended for approval to the National Executive Committee by a National Commission of The American Legion.

e. The National Adjutant shall keep and maintain a register of all matters officially received from a Department (i.e., from any Department Convention, Department Executive Committee) or sponsored by a National Executive Committeeman, referred to Commissions, and shall report these referrals to the National Executive Committee in written form at the regular meetings of the National Executive Committee which occur within 45 days after the adjournment of the National Convention (unless such time is extended by the National Commander for sufficient reasons to him appearing upon the approval of the National Executive Committee) and in May of each year in order that National Executive Committeemen from the respective Departments shall be informed of the referrals previously made concerning matters which originate within their respective Departments. This register will be continuous from meeting to meeting and continue to list a subject once placed thereon until it is reported as disposed of.

f. National Commissions when submitting their reports to the National Executive Committee shall include therein a record of the disposition of all matters previously referred to them and shall designate each by its register number if in that category. Resolutions referred to Commissions and upon which such Commissions shall have acted in an administrative or in such other manner or shall satisfy the purport of the resolution need only be reported to National Executive Committee as to disposition. Resolutions referred to Commissions for study and report and referred by such Commissions to the National Executive Committee for final action shall be filed with the Subcommittee on Resolutions as contemplated in paragraph e above, with recommendation as to their disposition.

#### **\*Updated\***

a. ~~A.~~ Letters and communications addressed to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee or to the ~~N~~ national C ~~commander~~, the ~~N~~ national A ~~adjutant~~ or any other ~~N~~ national O ~~officer~~ and by them referred to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall be read (or published to the members, if such be of import as determined by the national commander) by the ~~N~~ national A ~~adjutant~~. Such letters and/or communications shall be disposed of in one of the following ways motions:

1. By a “motion to accept.” Such a acceptance motion shall have the effect of approving the subject matter and ~~should~~ may include specific instructions for further disposition, i.e., by directions of the ~~N~~ national C ~~commander~~, ~~N~~ national A ~~adjutant~~ or other proper officer; by reference to an appropriate Commission or Committee or any other proper instruction.

2. By a “motion to receive and file.” Such a receive and file motion shall denote neither approval nor disapproval of the subject matter and shall require no action on the part of National Officers or others beyond a formal reply should such be required as determined by the national commander.

3. By a “motion to reject or decline.” Such a rejection motion shall mean disapproval and should include specific instructions for further disposition as ~~contemplated~~ set forth in paragraph Rule 9, Section A, subsection 1 above.

b. ~~B.~~ Reports of national officers shall be acted upon directly by the ~~National Executive~~ Committee, except that by direction of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee a report of any national officer may be referred to a Subcommittee of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee for study and report thereon; ~~;~~ P provided, however, ~~T~~ that such ~~reference~~ referral shall not continue beyond the meeting of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee to which such national officer's report is first submitted.

Reports of national officers shall not be altered or amended by the ~~National Executive~~ Committee, nor may any such report be rejected. In the event that the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall not agree with the

report or any statement ~~herein~~ therein contained, then, and in such event, if the presiding officer or the Executive Committee so determines, a separate memorandum shall be prepared as determined by the national commander setting forth the objections, which such memorandum, if approved by the ~~National Executive~~ Committee, shall be filed with the report. Any such memorandum, when submitted, shall be subject to amendment.

Reports of officers shall be disposed by one of the following motions as follows:

1. "To approve" the report. Such action shall constitute approval of the statements made in the report.
2. "To disapprove" the report. Such ~~motion~~ action shall have the effect of disapproving any or all statements of the report, but such ~~motion~~ action shall prevail only in the event that a memorandum setting forth the objections to such report shall have been adopted.
3. "To receive and file" the report. Such action shall constitute only a routine disposition of the report. A negative vote on motions 1 and 2 of Rule 9, Section B shall automatically cause the report to be received and filed.

~~e. C.~~ Reports of National Commissions shall include a report of the National Committees assigned to them, except that for good reasons, by direction of the ~~N~~ national ~~C~~ commander, a National Committee may report directly to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee. Reports of National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall be received and shall then be subject to disposition on the following motions disposed by one of the following motions:

1. "To approve" the report. Such ~~action~~ motion shall constitute approval of the statements made in the report subject to the procedure outlined in Rule 3-~~e~~ C of the ~~rules of this committee~~ Committee.
2. "To receive and file" the report. Such ~~action~~ motion shall constitute only a routine disposition of the report.
3. "To re-commit" the report. Such ~~action~~ motion shall return the report to the Commission or the Committee of origin for further study and report and may be accompanied by specific instructions.
4. "To commit the report to a special Subcommittee of the National Executive Committee." Such ~~action~~ motion shall contemplate specific study and such Subcommittee shall return the report to the Committee with recommendations.
5. "To commit to the Committee of the Whole." Upon adoption of such a motion, the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole and may thereafter alter or amend the report in whole or in part. The results of such action, however, shall again be submitted to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee for final disposition.

A negative vote on motion 1 of Rule 9, Section C shall automatically cause the report to be received and filed.

~~d. D.~~ Any member of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall be privileged to present a resolution in his or her own right in any of the following ways:

1. Under a proper order of business, in which case of the subject matter thereof shall be germane.
2. Under miscellaneous business.
3. Upon unanimous consent of the Committee at any session of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee, at an appropriate interval in the order of business.
4. Under a suspension of the ~~¶~~ Rules.

~~e. E.~~ All National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall be required to present in resolution form all recommendations as to their future conduct or future policy as to matters within their scope and functions upon which it is desired or required that the ~~National Executive~~ Committee take action as contemplated in Rule 3-~~paragraph e~~ , Section C. Such resolutions shall be filed with the Subcommittee on Resolutions prior to the first session of any meeting of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee at which action thereon is contemplated.

The Subcommittee on Resolutions shall report such resolutions to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee with appropriate recommendations immediately following the disposition of the report of the National Commission or Committee concerned.

~~¶. F.~~ Matters emanating from Posts, Departments ~~or other sources and from~~ the American Legion Auxiliary ~~or from other sources~~ shall be defined and classified as:

1. ~~LEGION SPONSORED MATTERS~~ "American Legion" sponsored matters

a. ~~A. American Legion sponsored matters would be R resolutions of from~~ properly constituted American Legion organizations, ~~to wit: Posts and intermediate bodies (which have been approved by their D department E~~ to wit: Posts and intermediate bodies (which have been approved by their D department E ~~executive C~~ committee), Department Executive Committee, Department Convention, National Convention or resolutions submitted by any National Commission or Committee.

b. B. Resolutions emanating from the National Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary or any other official component thereof.

c. ~~Official communications of the National Officers of The American Legion.~~

## 2. ~~OFFICIAL MATTERS~~ “Official” matters

Official M matters are those items which originate ~~with~~ from American Legion officers or officials such as Commanders or other officers of Posts, intermediate bodies, Departments or the President of the National Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary.

## 3. ~~GENERAL MATTERS~~ “General” matters

General matters are those items which originate ~~with~~ from individual members of The American Legion, individual citizens or as a result of communications ~~for~~ from organizations or their officials not affiliated with The American Legion or from agencies of Government.

H. Such matters, as listed above in Rule 9, Section F, Sub-sections 1 – 3, shall be disposed of as follows:

Whenever such matters ~~or communications~~ are received at the National Headquarters of The American Legion, the N national A adjutant shall analyze the subject matter and take action in one or more of the following ways:

a. A. Determine, in accordance with his one’s good judgment, whether or not such matter or communication is basically administrative in nature, and if so, refer the matter to the appropriate Administrator Division, or Director, or Executive for disposition.

b. B. If in the judgment of the N national A adjutant the subject matter be of primary concern to or related to a program or function of one of the National Commissions, he such matter shall be referred the same to the appropriate National Commission for action or for consideration by the appropriate National Commission looking toward presentation to the National Executive Committee.

c. C. Matters which do not fall within the above classifications, or which in the opinion of the N national E commander or the N national A adjutant, involve questions of organizational policy of sufficient importance to be considered directly by the National Executive Committee shall be referred to the Subcommittee on Resolutions of the National Executive Committee for disposition.

d. I. The National Executive Committee, with the exception of the latitude given in paragraph c above Rule 9, Section H, Subsection C, will directly consider only matters which bear the prior approval of a Department Convention or Department Executive Committee, or referred to it by the National Convention, or which may be recommended to it by the N national E commander, or be presented to it through the governing body of the American Legion Auxiliary. All other matters, as hereinbefore defined, which do not have the sponsorship specified in this specific paragraph may become eligible for consideration by the National Executive Committee only in the event that they have been recommended for approval to the National Executive Committee by a National Commission of The American Legion.

e. ~~The National Adjutant shall keep and maintain a register of all matters officially received from a Department (i.e., from any Department Convention, Department Executive Committee) or sponsored by a National Executive Committeeman, referred to Commissions, and shall report these referrals to the National Executive Committee in written form at the regular meetings of the National Executive Committee which occur within 45 days after the adjournment of the National Convention (unless such time is extended by the National Commander for sufficient reasons to him appearing upon the approval of the National Executive Committee) and in May of each year in order that National Executive Committeemen from the respective Departments shall be informed of the referrals previously made concerning matters which originate within their respective Departments. This register will be continuous from meeting to meeting and continue to list a subject once placed thereon until it is reported as disposed of.~~

f. J. National Commissions when submitting their reports to the National Executive Committee shall include therein a record of the disposition of all matters previously referred to them during that year and shall designate

each by its register number if in that category. Resolutions referred to National Commissions and upon which such National Commissions shall have acted in an administrative or in such other manner or shall satisfy the purport of the resolution need only be reported to ~~National Executive~~ Committee as to disposition. Resolutions referred to Commissions for study and report and referred by such Commissions to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee for final action shall be filed with the Subcommittee on Resolutions as contemplated in ~~paragraph e above~~, Rule 9, Section K with recommendation as to their disposition.

K. The ~~N~~ national ~~A~~ adjutant shall keep and maintain a register of all matters officially (i) received from a ~~D~~ department (for example: items from any Department Convention or Department Executive Committee); (ii) sponsored by a Committee Member; or (iii) referred to National Commissions. The ~~N~~ national ~~A~~ adjutant shall report these referrals to the Committee in written form at the regular meetings of the Committee which occur after the adjournment of the National Convention and in May of each year in order that Committee Members shall be informed of the referrals previously made. This register will be continuous from meeting to meeting and continue to list matters once placed thereon until it is reported as disposed of.

**\*New\***

A. Letters and communications addressed to the Committee or to the national commander, the national adjutant or any other national officer and by them referred to the Committee shall be read (or published as determined by the national commander) by the national adjutant. Such letters and/or communications shall be disposed of in one of the following motions:

1. By a "motion to accept." Such acceptance motion shall have the effect of approving the subject matter and may include specific instructions for further disposition, i.e., by directions of the national commander, national adjutant or other proper officer by reference to an appropriate Commission or Committee or any other proper instruction.

2. By a "motion to receive and file." Such receive and file motion shall denote neither approval nor disapproval of the subject matter and shall require no action on the part of National Officers or others beyond a formal reply should such be required as determined by the national commander.

3. By a "motion to reject or decline." Such rejection motion shall mean disapproval and should include specific instructions for further disposition as set forth in Rule 9, Section A, subsection 1.

B. Reports of national officers shall be acted upon directly by the Committee, except that by direction of the Committee a report of any national officer may be referred to a Subcommittee of the Committee for study and report thereon; provided, however, that such referral shall not continue beyond the meeting of the Committee to which such national officer's report is first submitted.

Reports of national officers shall not be altered or amended by the Committee, nor may any such report be rejected. In the event that the Committee shall not agree with the report or any statement therein contained, then, and in such event, if the presiding officer or the Committee so determines, a separate memorandum shall be prepared as determined by the national commander setting forth the objections, which such memorandum, if approved by the Committee, shall be filed with the report. Any such memorandum, when submitted, shall be subject to amendment.

Reports of officers shall be disposed by one of the following motions:

1. "To approve" the report. Such action shall constitute approval of the statements made in the report.

2. "To disapprove" the report. Such action shall have the effect of disapproving any or all statements of the report, but such action shall prevail only in the event that a memorandum setting forth the objections to such report shall have been adopted.

3. "To receive and file" the report. Such action shall constitute only a routine disposition of the report. A negative vote on motions 1 and 2 of Rule 9, Section B shall automatically cause the report to be received and filed.

C. Reports of National Commissions shall include a report of the National Committees assigned to them, except that for good reasons, by direction of the national commander, a National Committee may report directly to the Committee. Reports of National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the Committee shall be received and shall then be disposed by one of the following motions:



1. "To approve" the report. Such motion shall constitute approval of the statements made in the report subject to the procedure outlined in Rule 3-e C of the Committee.
2. "To receive and file" the report. Such motion shall constitute a routine disposition of the report.
3. "To re-commit" the report. Such motion shall return the report to the Commission or the Committee of origin for further study and report and may be accompanied by specific instructions.
4. "To commit the report to a special Subcommittee of the National Executive Committee." Such motion shall contemplate specific study and such Subcommittee shall return the report to the Committee with recommendations.
5. "To commit to the Committee of the Whole." Upon adoption of such a motion, the Committee shall resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole and may thereafter alter or amend the report in whole or in part. The results of such action, however, shall again be submitted to the Committee for final disposition.

A negative vote on motion 1 of Rule 9, Section C shall automatically cause the report to be received and filed.

D. Any member of the Committee shall be privileged to present a resolution in his or her own right in any of the following ways:

1. Under a proper order of business, in which case of the subject matter thereof shall be germane.
2. Under miscellaneous business.
3. Upon unanimous consent of the Committee at any session of the Committee at an appropriate interval in the order of business.
4. Under a suspension of the Rules.

E. All National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the Committee shall be required to present in resolution form all recommendations as to their future conduct or future policy as to matters within their scope and functions upon which it is desired or required that the Committee take action as contemplated in Rule 3, Section C. Such resolutions shall be filed with the Subcommittee on Resolutions prior to the first session of any meeting of the Committee at which action thereon is contemplated.

The Subcommittee on Resolutions shall report such resolutions to the Committee with appropriate recommendations immediately following the disposition of the report of the National Commission or Committee concerned.

F. Matters emanating from Posts, Departments, the American Legion Auxiliary or from other sources shall be defined and classified as:

1. "American Legion" sponsored matters

A. American Legion sponsored matters would be resolutions from properly constituted American Legion organizations: Posts and intermediate bodies (which have been approved by their department convention or department executive committee), Department Executive Committee, Department Convention, National Convention or resolutions submitted by any National Commission or Committee.

B. Resolutions emanating from the National Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary or any other official component thereof.

2. "Official" matters

Official matters are those items which originate from American Legion officers or officials such as Commanders or other officers of Posts, intermediate bodies, Departments or the President of the National Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary.

3. "General" matters

General matters are those items which originate from individual members of The American Legion, individual citizens or as a result of communications ~~for~~ from organizations or their officials not affiliated with The American Legion or from agencies of Government.

H. Such matters, as listed above in Rule 9, Section F, Sub-sections 1 – 3, shall be disposed of as follows:

Whenever such matters are received at the National Headquarters of The American Legion, the national adjutant shall analyze the subject matter and take action in one or more of the following ways:

- A. Determine, in accordance with one's good judgment, whether or not such matter or communication is basically administrative in nature, and if so, refer the matter to the appropriate Division, or Director for disposition.
- B. If in the judgment of the national adjutant the subject matter be of primary concern to or related to a program or function of one of the National Commissions, such matter shall be referred to the appropriate National Commission for action or for consideration by the appropriate National Commission.
- C. Matters which do not fall within the above classifications, or which in the opinion of the national commander or the national adjutant, involve questions of organizational policy of sufficient importance to be considered directly by the Committee shall be referred to the Subcommittee on Resolutions of the Committee for disposition.
- I. The Committee, with the exception of the latitude given in Rule 9, Section H, Subsection C , will directly consider only matters which bear the prior approval of a Department Convention or Department Executive Committee, or referred to it by the National Convention, or which may be recommended to it by the national commander, or be presented to it through the governing body of the American Legion Auxiliary. All other matters, as hereinbefore defined, which do not have the sponsorship specified in this specific paragraph may become eligible for consideration by the Committee only in the event that they have been recommended for approval to the Committee by a National Commission of The American Legion.
- J. National Commissions when submitting their reports to the Committee shall include therein a record of the disposition of all matters previously referred to them during that year and shall designate each by its register number if in that category. Resolutions referred to National Commissions and upon which such National Commissions shall have acted in an administrative or in such other manner or shall satisfy the purport of the resolution need only be reported to Committee as to disposition. Resolutions referred to Commissions for study and report and referred by such Commissions to the Committee for final action shall be filed with the Subcommittee on Resolutions as contemplated in Rule 9, Section K with recommendation as to their disposition.
- K. The national adjutant shall keep and maintain a register of all matters officially (i) received from a department (for example: items from any Department Convention or Department Executive Committee); (ii) sponsored by a Committee Member; or (iii) referred to National Commissions. The national adjutant shall report these referrals to the Committee in written form at the regular meetings of the Committee which occur after the adjournment of the National Convention and in May of each year in order that Committee Members shall be informed of the referrals previously made. This register will be continuous from meeting to meeting and continue to list matters once placed thereon until it is reported as disposed.

## Rule 10 Form of Resolutions

### \*Previous\*

a. Resolutions which shall be offered as the direct action of the National Executive Committee shall be prepared in appropriate form containing such informative preamble in the form of "Whereas" followed by statements of fact and shall conclude with a Resolving clause or clauses which shall specifically set forth what statement or declaration is to receive action of the National Executive Committee. Such Resolving clause or clauses shall contain the following leading language:

"RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular (or special) meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana (or other place), on (date or dates), That, etc.-and be it further

"RESOLVED, That, etc."

b. Resolutions of Posts, intermediate bodies or other officially constituted subordinate organization which shall have received favorable action by their respective Department Conventions or Executive Committee and which shall have an appropriate endorsement thereof in resolution form shall be acted upon by the National Executive Committee in the form of a final Resolving clause in the following leading language:

"And be it finally Resolved, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular (or special) meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana (or other place), on (date or dates), That, etc."

c. Resolutions of Department Conventions or Department Executive Committees shall be similarly acted upon by the National Executive Committee in the form of a final Resolving clause as contemplated in paragraph b above.

### \*Updated\*

~~a. A.~~ Resolutions, which shall be offered as the direct action of the ~~National Executive Committee~~, shall be prepared in appropriate form containing such informative preamble in the form of "Whereas" followed by statements of fact and shall conclude with a ~~R~~ resolving clause, or clauses, which shall specifically set forth what statement or declaration is to receive action of the ~~National Executive Committee~~. Such ~~R~~ resolving clause, or clauses, ~~shall~~ may contain the following leading language:

"RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular (or special) meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana (or other place), on (date or dates), That, etc. and be it further

"RESOLVED, That, etc."

~~b. B.~~ Resolutions of ~~P~~ posts, intermediate bodies or other officially constituted subordinate organization which shall have received favorable action by their respective Department Conventions or Department Executive Committee and which shall have an appropriate endorsement thereof in proper resolution form ~~shall~~ may be acted upon by the ~~National Executive Committee~~ in the form of a final ~~R~~ resolving clause in the following leading language:

"And be it finally Resolved, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular (or special) meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana (or other place), on (date or dates), That, etc."

~~e. C.~~ Resolutions of Department Conventions or Department Executive Committees shall be similarly acted upon by the ~~National Executive Committee~~ in the form of a final ~~R~~ resolving clause as contemplated in ~~paragraph b~~ above Rule 10, Section B.

### \*New\*

A. Resolutions, which shall be offered as the direct action of the Committee, shall be prepared in appropriate form containing such informative preamble in the form of "Whereas" followed by statements of fact and shall conclude with a resolving clause, or clauses, which shall specifically set forth what statement or declaration is to receive action of the Committee. Such resolving clause, or clauses, may contain the following leading language:

"RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular (or special) meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana (or other place), on (date or dates), That, etc. and be it further

"RESOLVED, That, etc."

B. Resolutions of posts, intermediate bodies or other officially constituted subordinate organization which shall have received favorable action by their respective Department Conventions or Department Executive Committee and which shall have an appropriate endorsement thereof in proper resolution form may be acted upon by the Committee in the form of a final resolving clause in the following leading language:

“And be it finally Resolved, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular (or special) meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana (or other place), on (date or dates), That, etc.”

C. Resolutions of Department Conventions or Department Executive Committees shall be similarly acted upon by the Committee in the form of a final resolving clause as contemplated in Rule 10, Section B.

## Rule 11 Subcommittee on Resolutions

### **\*Previous\***

The Subcommittee on Resolutions of the National Executive Committee shall meet at least two days prior to any regular meeting of the National Executive Committee held in May and October of each year or any adjournment thereof.

The Subcommittee shall prepare a digest and such supplements thereto as may be necessary of all resolutions considered by it and for presentation to this Committee, together with the recommendation of the Subcommittee.

The digest of resolutions and supplements thereto shall be placed on the desk of each Committeeman at the opening of the various sessions.

The Subcommittee shall have the cooperation of all officers, employees and members of Committees and Commissions to obtain such information, facts and advice as it may deem necessary to carry out its responsibilities and duties.

The Subcommittee shall have authority to alter, amend, redraft or substitute for any resolution submitted to it for presentation to the National Executive Committee; Provided, however, That the Subcommittee shall report the original resolution and its reason for any change.

### **\*Updated\***

The Subcommittee on Resolutions ("Subcommittee") of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall meet at least two days prior to any regular meeting of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee held in May and October of each year or any adjournment thereof.

The Subcommittee shall prepare a digest and such supplements thereto as may be necessary of all resolutions considered by it and for presentation to ~~this~~ the Committee, together with the recommendation of the Subcommittee.

~~The digest~~ Copies of resolutions and supplements thereto shall be placed on the desk of each ~~Committeeman~~ Committee Member at the opening of the various ~~sessions~~ meetings.

The Subcommittee shall have the cooperation of all officers, employees and members of National Commissions and Committees and ~~Commissions~~ to obtain such information, facts and advice as it may deem necessary to carry out ~~it's~~ the Subcommittee's responsibilities and duties.

The Subcommittee ~~shall have~~ has the authority to alter, amend, redraft or substitute for any resolution submitted to it prior to the resolution's ~~for~~ presentation to the ~~National Executive~~ Committee; ~~P~~ provided, however, ~~T~~ that the Subcommittee shall concurrently report the original resolution to the Committee and ~~it's~~ the Subcommittee's reason for any change made.

### **\*New\***

The Subcommittee on Resolutions ("Subcommittee") of the Committee shall meet at least two days prior to any regular meeting of the Committee held in May and October of each year or any adjournment thereof.

The Subcommittee shall prepare a digest and such supplements thereto as may be necessary of all resolutions considered by it and for presentation to the Committee, together with the recommendation of the Subcommittee.

Copies of resolutions and supplements thereto shall be placed on the desk of each Committee Member at the opening of the various meetings.

The Subcommittee shall have the cooperation of all officers, employees and members of National Commissions and Committees to obtain such information, facts and advice as it may deem necessary to carry out ~~the~~ Subcommittee's responsibilities and duties.

The Subcommittee has the authority to alter, amend, redraft or substitute for any resolution submitted to it prior to the resolution's ~~for~~ presentation to the Committee; provided, however, that the Subcommittee shall concurrently report the original resolution to the Committee and ~~the~~ Subcommittee's reason for any change made.

## Rule 12

### Transaction of Business by Mail, E-mail or by Telephone

#### \*Previous\*

The National Executive Committee, without meeting together, may transact business by mail or by e-mail or by telephone on a matter of extreme urgency not involving the establishment of any new policy and on which action cannot be delayed to the next regular meeting, by voting upon proposed resolutions mailed or e-mailed or telephoned to them by the National Adjutant, with the approval of the National Commander. Thirty days shall be allowed for the return, by mail or e-mail or telephone, of the votes thereon to the National Adjutant. The voting shall be considered closed at the end of the thirty days: Provided, That three-fourths of the members of the National Executive Committee have returned their votes by that time, or it shall be considered closed at any time prior thereto if and when all the members shall have returned their votes: Provided, further, That in the event one-third of the committee in writing, objects to the ballot by mail or by e-mail or by telephone, the matter shall not be decided and will be considered as the first order of business at the next regular or special meeting: Provided, further, That votes by e-mail shall be confirmed by mail by the National Adjutant to the NECman voting and: Provided, further, That thereafter the National Adjutant shall notify the committee of the action taken.

#### \*Updated\*

The ~~National Executive~~ Committee, without physically meeting together, may transact official business by mail ~~or by~~ , e-mail ~~or by~~ , telephone , video conference or by any other such means available on a any matter of extreme urgency ~~as determined by the national commander not involving the establishment of any new policy and on which action cannot be delayed to the next regular meeting~~, by voting upon proposed resolutions mailed ~~or~~ , e-mailed ~~or~~ , telephoned , video conferenced or provided by any other such means available to them by the ~~N~~ national A adjutant, with the approval of the ~~N~~ national C commander.

~~Thirty~~ Fifteen days shall be allowed for the return, by mail ~~or~~ , e-mail ~~or~~ , telephone, video conference or any other such means available of the votes thereon to the ~~N~~ national A adjutant. The voting shall be considered closed at the end of the ~~thirty~~ fifteen days: ~~P~~ provided, ~~T~~ that three-fourths of the members of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee have returned their votes by that time, or it shall be considered closed at any time prior thereto if and when all the ~~m~~ Committee Members shall have returned their votes: ~~P~~ ; provided, further, ~~T~~ that ~~I~~ in the event one-third of the ~~e~~ Committee in writing objects to the ballot by the voting method utilized ~~mail or by e-mail or by telephone~~, the matter shall not be decided proceed and will be considered as the first order of business at the next regular or special meeting of the Committee: ~~Provided, further, That votes by e-mail shall be confirmed by mail by the National Adjutant to the NECman voting and: Provided, further, That thereafter~~ The results of the action taken shall be provided to all Committee Members by the ~~N~~ national A adjutant shall notify the committee of the action taken.

#### \*New\*

The Committee, without physically meeting together, may transact official business by mail, e-mail, telephone, video conference or by any other such means available on any matter of urgency as determined by the national commander by voting upon proposed resolutions mailed, e-mailed, telephoned , video conferenced or provided by any other such means available to them by the national adjutant, with the approval of the national commander.

Fifteen days shall be allowed for the return, by mail, e-mail, telephone, video conference or any other such means available of the votes thereon to the national adjutant. The voting shall be considered closed at the end of the fifteen days provided, that three-fourths of the members of the Committee have returned their votes by that time, or it shall be considered closed at any time prior thereto if and when all the Committee Members shall have returned their votes; provided, further, that in the event one-third of the Committee in writing objects to the ballot by the voting method utilized, the matter shall not proceed and will be considered as the first order of business at

the next regular or special meeting of the Committee. The results of the action taken shall be provided to all Committee Members by the national adjutant.



\*NEW\*

### **Rule 13**

#### **Meeting by use of the Internet or Video Conferencing**

A. The Secretary shall send by e-mail notice to every Committee Member at least eight (8) days prior to any internet or video conference meeting (“Meeting”): (i) the Meeting(s) day and time; (ii) the Meeting(s) connection URL and code(s); and, (iii) as an alternative and backup to the audio/video connection included within the e-mail notice, a phone number and access code(s) the Committee Member may need to participate in the Meeting by telephone. The Secretary shall also include a link to the Rules with this e-mail notice.

B. The Secretary shall schedule the Meeting sign-on service availability for all Committee Members beginning at least 30 minutes before the Meeting scheduled start time.

C. Upon signing into the meeting all Committee Members shall identify themselves and shall consistently maintain internet and/or audio access throughout the Meeting.

D. The Meeting quorum number is determined based upon the National By-Law requirements. Thereafter, the continued presence of a quorum attendance is determined by the online list of Committee Members, unless a Committee Member demands a quorum count by an audible roll call. Such a demand may only be made following any vote for which the announced totals add to less than a required quorum.

E. Each Committee Member is responsible for his or her audio and internet connections as no action shall be invalidated on the grounds that the loss of, or poor quality of, a Committee Member’s individual connection prevented participation in the Meeting.

F. The Chair may cause or direct the disconnection or muting of a Committee Member’s connection to the Meeting. The Chair’s decision to do so shall be announced during the meeting and recorded in the Meeting minutes.

G. To seek recognition by the Chair, a Committee Member shall raise his or her hand, or utilize the method within the internet meeting service being used.

H. A Committee Member intending to make a motion, or request, shall raise his or her hand, or utilize the method with the internet meeting service being used, and shall thereafter wait a reasonable time for the Chair’s instructions before attempting to interrupt the speaker by voice.

I. A Committee Member intending to make a motion or offer an amendment not previously provided to all Committee Members, shall, before or after being recognized, post the motion, or amendment, in writing to the online area designated by the Secretary for this purpose, along with the Committee Member’s name. The use of the online area designed for this purpose by the Secretary shall be restricted to posting the text of intended motions or amendments.

J. The Secretary shall designate an online area exclusively for the display of an immediately pending motion/question and other relevant pending question(s) (such as the main motion when an amendment is immediately pending); and, to the extent possible, the Secretary, or an appointed assistant, shall cause such question(s) to be displayed therein until disposed of by the Committee.

K. Committee Member votes shall be taken by the voting feature of the internet meeting service, unless a different method is ordered by the Chair. When ordered other permissible methods of voting are by electronic roll call or by audible roll call. The Chair's announcement of the voting result may include the number of members voting on each side of the question. All Meeting business brought forth may also be conducted by unanimous consent.

L. The Secretary, or his or her assistant(s), will display a video of the Chair throughout the Meeting and may also display the video, and/or photo, of the Committee Member, or individual, currently speaking.

M. If a Committee Member needs any sort of technical assistance he or she must request such assistance from the Secretary at least 96 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time.

**Rule 13**  
**Suspension of Rule**

**\*Previous\***

No standing rule or order of the National Executive Committee shall be suspended without one hour's notice being given of the motion therefor, and no rule shall be suspended except by a vote of two-thirds of all members present.

**\*Updated\***

**Rule ~~13~~ 14**  
**Suspension of Rule**

No standing rule or order of the ~~National Executive~~ Committee shall be suspended without one hour's notice being given of the motion therefor, and no rule shall be suspended except by a positive vote of two-thirds of all Committee members present.

**\*New\***

**Rule 14**  
**Suspension of Rule**

No standing rule or order of the Committee shall be suspended without one hour's notice being given of the motion therefor and no rule shall be suspended except by a positive vote of two-thirds of all Committee members present.

**Rule 14**

**Robert's Rules of Order to Govern**

**Previous**

Except as otherwise herein specifically provided, Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern.

**\*Updated\***

**Rule 14 15**

**Robert's Rules of Order to Govern**

Except as otherwise herein specifically provided, Robert's Rule of Order, ~~Newly Revised~~ current edition, shall govern unless otherwise determined.

**\*New\***

**Rule 15**

**Robert's Rules of Order to Govern**

Except as otherwise herein specifically provided, Robert's Rule of Order, current edition, shall govern unless otherwise determined.

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

2

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

**Resolution**

Page 1 of 11

**No.: 2**

**Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress**

**Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions**

WHEREAS, National Executive Committee Resolution No. 25, October 2016, titled, "Implementation of the Legislative Program" provides that, "...all resolutions with legislative intent are to be reviewed by the appropriate convention committees at the National Convention immediately preceding the convening of a new Congress" and that, "...the convention committees include in their reports to the National Convention an addendum listing those resolutions...previously approved with legislative intent that are to remain as part of the legislative program of The American Legion for the next Congress; and

WHEREAS, These requirements were unable to be fulfilled because of the cancellation of the 2020 National Convention by National Executive Committee Resolution No. 3, Mail 2020; and

WHEREAS, The legislative program of The American Legion needs to be continued; and

WHEREAS, The following, previously approved resolutions have been reviewed by the standing commissions to be included in the legislative program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the following resolutions previously approved by a National Convention or the National Executive Committee are hereby reiterated and remain as part of the legislative program of The American Legion through the 117th Congress.**

**AMERICANISM**

<b>2016</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Flag Code Amendment</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>Convention</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>Eliminate Damages and Attorney Fees in Establishment Clause Lawsuits</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>Convention</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>Constitutional Amendment to Protect the Flag of the United States</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>Convention</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>English Language Be Declared as the Official United States Language</b>

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

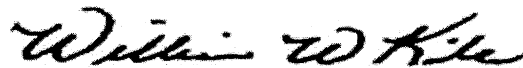
Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

2

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

**Resolution**

Page 2 of 11

No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

2016	Fall	11	Support and Defend Veteran and Military Memorials
2017	Spring	16	National Global War on Terrorism Memorial
2017	Fall	11	National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass for Honorably Discharged Veterans
2018	Convention	50	Increase Income Tax Deduction for Volunteer Mileage
2018	Convention	86	Award Congressional Gold Medal to the 23 <sup>rd</sup> Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133 <sup>rd</sup> Signal Service Company
2018	Convention	110	Support Congressional Gold Medal for Signal Corps Female Telephone Operators of WWI
2018	Fall	1	Unrecognized Armed Hostilities Recognition
2019	Convention	57	Coin Commemoration of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the End of World War II

**NATIONAL SECURITY**

2016	Convention	225	Fully Fund NASA
2016	Convention	29	Commercial Shipbuilding For Defense
2016	Convention	33	Rare Earth Elements
2016	Convention	96	Support Full Funding And Resourcing For The U.S. Navy And Marine Corps
2016	Convention	219	Support Full Funding For The Department Of The Army Budget
2018	Convention	35	National Defense Budget
2016	Convention	45	Policy On The Arctic Region
2016	Convention	90	South China Sea Island Building
2018	Convention	117	Japan Arms Sales
2019	Spring	9	Support For The Federated States Of Micronesia, The Republic Of The Marshall Islands, And Republic Of Palau

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions



**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

2

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

**Resolution**

Page 3 of 11

No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

2019	Convention	41	Protection Of The POW/MIA Flag
2016	Convention	23	Support For The Department Of Homeland Security And Coast Guard
2016	Convention	24	Illegal Immigration Policy
2016	Convention	32	Support Domestic Energy Production
2016	Convention	91	Cybersecurity And Identity Theft
2016	Convention	173	Secure National Borders Against Illegal Drugs
2016	Convention	85	Support For Military Quality Of Life Standards
2016	Convention	93	Codify Burial Eligibility For Arlington National Cemetery
2016	Convention	94	Earned Military Benefits
2016	Convention	102	Oppose Tricare Fee Increases
2016	Convention	107	Support Armed Services Retirement Homes
2016	Convention	200	Extended Care Health Option (ECHO)
2018	Spring	10	Expedited Citizenship Applications For Deported Veterans
2018	Convention	98	Continuation Of Military Death Benefits During Government Shutdown
2018	Fall	15	Expedited Citizenship Through Military Service
2019	Fall	18	Funding Of The Department Of Defense STARBASE Program

**VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION**

2016	Fall	22	Surviving Families Benefits
2016	Fall	23	Add Agent Orange Component To Code Of Federal Regulations 4.16
2016	Fall	24	Improve Special Monthly Compensation (K) Award
2016	Convention	1	Department Of Veterans Affairs Quadrennial Plan For Budget
2016	Convention	2	Reinstate Enrollment Of Priority Group 8g Veterans Into The Department Of Veterans Affairs' Patient Enrollment System
2016	Convention	6	Department Of Veterans Affairs Construction Programs
2016	Convention	8	Department Of Veterans Affairs Preservation Of National Historic Properties
2016	Convention	11	Medical Marijuana Research

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

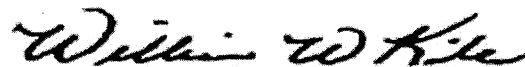
Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

2

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 4 of 11

No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

2016	Convention	35	Agent Orange
2016	Convention	41	State Veterans Home Funding For Construction Grants
2016	Convention	43	Department Of Veterans Affairs Child Care Program
2016	Convention	44	Department Of Veterans Affairs Rural Healthcare Program
2016	Convention	51	WWII Veterans Hospital And Medical Entitlements
2016	Convention	52	Department Of Veterans Affairs Means Test
2016	Convention	53	Veterans Discounts On Federally Funded Public Transportation
2016	Convention	55	Radiation Exposure
2016	Convention	62	Veterans Transportation System And Benefits Travel
2016	Convention	64	Department Of Veterans Affairs Beneficiary Travel Program
2016	Convention	83	Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record
2016	Convention	117	Disability And Death Pension Program
2016	Convention	131	Recognize Operations In Lebanon (1958), Grenada (1983), And Panama (1989-1990) As Periods Of War For Department Of Veterans Affairs Pension Purposes
2016	Convention	163	Legislation To Provide Reporting, Tracking, And Actions Dealing With Sexual Assaults At Department Of Veterans Affairs Facilities
2016	Convention	181	National Cemetery Administration
2016	Convention	182	Non-Department Of Veterans Affairs Emergency Care
2016	Convention	183	Presumptive Conditions For Former Prisoners Of War
2016	Convention	185	State Veteran Home Per Diem Reimbursement
2016	Convention	186	Department Of Veterans Affairs Dental Care
2016	Convention	187	Department Of Veterans Affairs Disability Compensation
2016	Convention	188	Department Of Veterans Affairs' Role In National Emergency Preparedness
2016	Convention	238	Suicide Prevention For American Veterans Act
2016	Convention	245	Extend Eligibility For National Cemetery Administration Medallion
2016	Convention	246	Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans
2016	Convention	259	Extend Caregiver Benefits To Include Veterans Before September 11, 2001

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

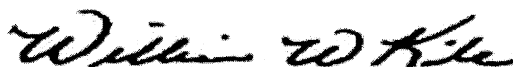
Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions





The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

2

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 5 of 11

No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

2016	Convention	268	Urn Markers Provided By The National Cemetery Administration
2016	Convention	362	Congressional Budget Office Scoring On Department Of Veterans Affairs Leasing
2016	Convention	363	Consolidation Of Department Of Veterans Affairs Care In The Community Program
2016	Convention	367	Include Korean War Veterans In Priority Group 6 For Department Of Veterans Affairs Health Care
2016	Convention	372	Oppose Closing Or Privatization Of Department Of Veterans Affairs Health Care System
2016	Convention	375	Prosecution Of VA Employees Engaged In Fraudulent Practices In The Department Of Veterans Affairs
2016	Convention	377	Support For Veteran Quality Of Life
2016	Convention	378	United States Census To Include Veterans Information
2016	Convention	379	Veteran Caretaker Stipend
2016	Convention	380	Exempt Funds Related To Interment Services At Cemeteries From Any Future Sequestration
2017	Spring	23	Department Of Veterans Affairs Provide Mental Health Services For Veterans With Other Than Honorable And General Discharges
2017	Spring	27	Amend Title 38, United States Code, To Clarify The Treatment Of A Veteran As Adjudicated Mentally Incompetent For Certain Purposes
2017	Convention	14	Extend Allotted Time For Claims Review By Service Officers
2017	Convention	16	Department Of Veterans Affairs Automobile Allowance Program
2017	Convention	47	Research Into Hearing Loss Due To Loud Or Constant Noise Exposure In The Military
2017	Convention	74	Air Carrier Access
2017	Convention	75	Department Of Veterans Affairs Rural Health Care Program
2017	Convention	76	Veterans Emergency Room Or Urgent Care Facility Relief

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

2

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 6 of 11

No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

2018	Spring	18	Furnish Hospital Care And Medical Services To Veterans And Family Members Who Were Stationed At Military Installations At Which The Veterans And Dependents Were Exposed To Per- And Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
2018	Spring	19	Helping Veterans Exposed To Burn Pits
2018	Convention	11	Agent Orange And Kidney Disease
2018	Convention	49	Exempt Certain Income From VA Pension Rate Determination
2018	Convention	53	Means Test For Married Veterans
2018	Convention	58	Compensation For Veterans Requiring Hearing Aids For Service Connected Hearing Loss
2018	Convention	59	Automatic Waiver For Over-Payment Of \$300
2018	Convention	64	Department Of Veterans Affairs Dental Care For Ratings Of 50% Or More
2018	Convention	74	Amend The Eligibility Requirements And Extend The Eligibility Time Period For Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance
2018	Convention	79	Improve Special Monthly Compensation (K) Award
2018	Convention	85	Designate Prisoner Of War, Purple Heart And Medal Of Honor Recipients As Priority Group 1 Veterans
2018	Convention	93	Agent Orange
2018	Convention	115	Outdoor And Adaptive Sports Programs For Veterans
2019	Convention	11	Environmental Exposures At Fort McClellan
2019	Convention	32	Veterans Burial/Plot Allowance Payment
2019	Convention	52	Antidepressant Harms Analysis
2019	Convention	58	Department Of Veterans Affairs Accreditation Of Individual Claims Agents
2019	Convention	59	Establish Green Alert System Interagency Group Or Committee For Veterans In Crisis
2019	Fall	11	Abolish Premium For Delayed Enrollment In Medicare Part B For Veterans Eligible For Medical Benefits From The Department Of Veterans Affairs

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

2

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

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No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

2019 Convention 18 Payment For Emergency Transportation To A Department Of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

2019 Fall 13 Tracking of Veteran Unemployment in all U.S. Territories  
2019 Fall 14 Reauthorize and Fund the U.S. Small Business Administration's Patriot Express Loan  
2019 Fall 15 Support Greater GI Bill Outcomes by Closing 90-10 Loophole  
2019 Convention 54 GI Bill Eligibility for Reserve and National Guard Service  
2019 Convention 55 Mandatory use of the Veterans First Contracting Program  
2019 Spring 13 Support Robust Enforcement of the Military Lending Act  
2018 Fall 21 Support Reasonable Set-Aside of Federal Procurements and Contracts  
2018 Fall 22 Expanding Post-9/11 GI Bill for Student Loan Repayments  
2018 Fall 23 Close the GI Bill Flight School Loophole  
2018 Fall 24 Support Funding and Changes to the Department of Veterans Affairs Grant and Per Diem Program  
2018 Fall 26 Eliminate GI Bill Transferability Maximum Year Caps  
2018 Convention 100 Accountability of the Department of Defense's Transition Assistance Program (TAP)  
2018 Convention 101 Support for Continuation of Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program  
2018 Convention 102 Expansion of the Department of Defense's Transition Assistance Program (TAP) to include Ancillary Programs and Services  
2018 Convention 103 Support and Expand Department of Defense Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program  
2018 Convention 104 GI Bill Fairness for Activated National Guard Servicemembers  
2018 Convention 105 Support and Expand Warrior Transition Advancement Course (WARTAC)  
2018 Spring 11 Support Veteran and Reserve Servicemember Financial Protections  
2018 Spring 12 Accountability and Enhancements of Transition Assistance Program;

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

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No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

2017	Fall	20	Outcomes and Delivery for Today's Digital Transitioning Servicemembers Support of An Acting Operator for Deployed Servicemember's Small Business
2017	Convention	26	Support Effort of the Small Business Administration's Office of Veterans Business Development and Veterans Business Outreach Centers
2017	Convention	81	Military Spouse Employment
2017	Convention	82	Preserve Veteran and Servicemember Rights to Gainful Employment and Borrower Defense Protections
2017	Convention	83	Protect Veteran and Servicemember Rights to Fair Consumer Arbitration
2017	Convention	84	Support and Strengthen the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)
2017	Convention	85	Support Employment and Reemployment Rights of National Guard and Reservists Returning from Deployment
2017	Spring	21	Support State and National Funding for Troops to Teachers Program
2016	Fall	20	Oppose Efforts to Downgrade Low-Level Wage Positions within the Department of Veterans Affairs
2016	Convention	58	Support Legislation that Prohibits Discrimination against Veterans in Federal Contracts
2016	Convention	60	Support Full Funding of Local Veterans Employment Representatives and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist (DVOPS) Positions
2016	Convention	68	Support the Increased Funding of Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialist and Local Veterans' Employment Representative Programs
2016	Convention	70	Improve Transition Assistance Program
2016	Convention	71	Oppose Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service Hiring of Non-Veterans
2016	Convention	73	Oppose the Transfer of Veterans' Employment and Training Service to the Department of Veterans Affairs
2016	Convention	75	Support Legislation that Ensures that all Agencies that Receive Funding

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

2

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No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

			<b>from the U.S. Department of Labor or the Workforce Investment Act Meet the Mandatory Compliance Standards for Veterans Preference</b>
2016	Convention	76	<b>Support Improvements in the Reporting Programs available to and Administered by Veterans' Employment and Training Service</b>
2016	Convention	77	<b>Support for the Military Transition Program</b>
2016	Convention	80	<b>Support Legislation that would return Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialist and Local Veterans' Employment Representative Funding to a Staffing Grant</b>
2016	Convention	81	<b>Transition Assistance Program Employment Workshops for National Guard and Reserve Members</b>
2016	Convention	149	<b>Support "Buy American" Policy at the Department of Veterans Affairs to Create Jobs and Opportunities for Veterans</b>
2016	Convention	150	<b>Expanding Post 9/11 GI Bill for Entrepreneurship</b>
2016	Convention	151	<b>Status of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business after the Death of the Veteran Owner</b>
2016	Convention	153	<b>Support Effort of the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Veterans Business Development</b>
2016	Convention	155	<b>Support Verification Improvements for Veterans' Business</b>
2016	Convention	156	<b>Veterans Entrepreneur Training Program</b>
2016	Convention	170	<b>Oppose the Department of Labor's Restructuring of Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialist and Local Veterans Employment Representative Roles</b>
2016	Convention	254	<b>Raise on VA Home Loans for Two Legally Married Eligible Veterans</b>
2016	Convention	274	<b>Support Employment Services for Spouses of Servicemembers Killed in the Line of Duty</b>
2016	Convention	311	<b>Federal and State Incentive for Employers to use Veterans' Preference</b>
2016	Convention	313	<b>Support Elimination Funding Fees for Government Guaranteed Loans</b>
2016	Convention	314	<b>Support Elimination of The VA Home Loan Funding Fee</b>
2016	Convention	316	<b>Support Employment of Veterans in the Public and Private Workforce</b>

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved


Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

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No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

2016	Convention	317	Enforcing Veterans' Preference Hiring Practices in Federal Civil Service
2016	Convention	318	Ensuring the Quality of Servicemember and Veteran Student's Education at Institutions of Higher Education
2016	Convention	319	Expanding Veterans Employment and Homeless Services within The Department of Veterans Affairs
2016	Convention	327	Support further Assessment and Evaluation of Institutions of Higher Learning to Enable Veterans to make Informed Education Choices
2016	Convention	328	GI Bill Medical Transferability Rights
2016	Convention	329	Support Home Loan Guaranty Program
2016	Convention	330	Homeless Veterans Assistance
2016	Convention	331	Support Housing Preference for Low-Income Veterans in The Department of Housing and Urban Development
2016	Convention	332	Support Funding for The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Veterans Affairs (VA) Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Homeless Program
2016	Convention	333	Support Increase in Reporting Fees for Educational Institutions
2016	Convention	334	Support Legislation to Increase Telework (Telecommuting) Opportunities for Service-Disabled Veterans and Military Spouses
2016	Convention	335	Support Major Enhancements for The Montgomery GI Bill
2016	Convention	336	Support Legislation that would Change The 12-Year Delimiting Date for Eligibility to Chapter 31 Benefits (VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program)
2016	Convention	339	Support the Rollover of Ira Account Penalty of Tax Liability of a Permanent and Total 100 Percent Service-Disabled Veteran with Individual Unemployability
2016	Convention	340	Support Permanent Authorization for the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program
2016	Convention	341	Support Recognition of Military and Pay when Calculating Starting Federal Civilian Salaries

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

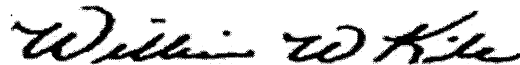
Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions



The American Legion  
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2

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No.: 2

Title: Legislative Program for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

2016	Convention	344	Support Federal Legislation that Protects the Employment of Veterans in the U. S. Postal Service Mail Processing Facilities that are Slated for Closure
2016	Convention	346	Support an Investigation of Hiring Practices in the Federal Government
2016	Convention	348	Support Legislation that Bolsters the Hiring of Veterans in the Public and Private Sectors
2016	Convention	349	Support Legislation to improve the Post-9/11 GI Bill
2016	Convention	351	Support Tax Credit for certain Employers
2016	Convention	352	Transitional Housing Allotments for returning Combat Veterans
2016	Convention	353	Support a Veteran-Centric Website for Employment
2016	Convention	354	Work Opportunity Tax Credit Program
2016	Convention	355	Veterans Employment Initiative
2016	Convention	356	Veterans Home Loans
2016	Convention	357	Support Veterans Housing Repair and Modification for Pilot Program
2016	Convention	358	Support Veterans' Preference in Public Employment

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected


Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

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Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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**No.: 3**

**Title: Accuracy in Reporting Survivor Benefits and COVID-19**

**Origin: Register Resolution No. 2788 (NY) Department Executive Committee**

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has infected millions across the globe and has resulted in more than 166,000 deaths in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Many of those U.S. citizens who have died were veterans who had underlying service-connected health issues; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 hastens the veteran's death by accelerating the progression of their service-connected health issues, which potentially contribute to the veteran's death; and

WHEREAS, It is feared that the death certificates of these veterans will only list the COVID-19 as the cause of death, causing delays or denial of survivors' benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); and

WHEREAS, 38 USC 5109 requires the secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to seek independent medical opinions when such claims demonstrate medical complexities or controversies; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion support legislation requiring the Department of Veterans Affairs to seek independent medical opinions and veterans military medical history that are chronic and are factors in the veterans demise when claims for survivors' benefits are compromised by medical complexities and controversies, i.e. COVID-19, pandemic disease, etc., that may influence or alter cause of death as recorder on a veterans death certificate.**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

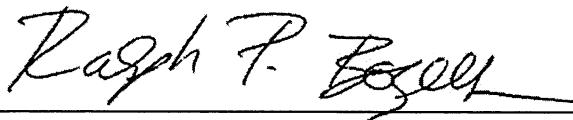
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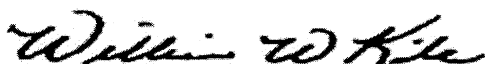
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission





The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

4

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 4

Title: **Appropriate Procedures for Compensation & Pension Examinations**

Origin: **Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

WHEREAS, The reliance of the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) on contracted compensation & pension (C&P) examinations has increased substantially since 2016, when it awarded 12 contracts to five private firms for up to \$6.8 billion; and

WHEREAS, An October 2018 report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) concluded that such medical providers contracted to conduct C&P exams are not meeting the accuracy and timeliness standards set forth by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); and

WHEREAS, C&P exams fulfill essential functions for VA disability claims and appeals, such as establishing service connection for veterans' disabilities and evaluating their severity for the purpose of VA disability compensation; and

WHEREAS, It is reasonable to expect VA to schedule C&P exams only when they are needed, and to notify veterans of their appointments for such examinations in an appropriate and effective manner; and

WHEREAS, It has been reported to The American Legion that C&P exams have been scheduled unnecessarily for veterans whose conditions are already diagnosed and being treated by VA; and

WHEREAS, When VA-contracted providers contact veterans on their home phones, no caller ID appears; thus, veterans often do not take the call and they are subsequently penalized by VA with a "no show" at their scheduled C&P exam; and

WHEREAS, Such "no show" determinations often result in the denial of benefits to America's veterans; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urge the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to alleviate the scheduling of unnecessary compensation & pension (C&P) exams; and, be it further**

*Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation*

*Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature*

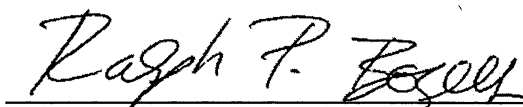
Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

No.: 4

Title: Appropriate Procedures for Compensation & Pension Examinations

Origin: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

RESOLVED, That VA-contracted medical providers contact veterans telephonically in a manner that will identify the caller to the veteran; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That VA and VA contractors refrain from assigning "no show" determinations in veterans' medical records until such veterans have been contacted via their primary phone numbers, secondary phone numbers and/or email; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Veterans Benefits Administration establish notification, grievance and a national hotline for veterans who experience inappropriate procedures and standards with contracted medical examiners during the compensation and pension process; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion supports the use of disability benefits questionnaires and advocates that a VA diagnosis of a veteran(s) condition be recognized in order to avoid subsequent and duplicate medical testing by an contracted medical examiner concerning an established medical condition.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

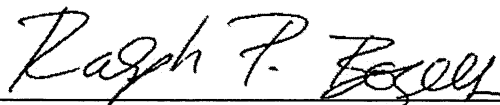
Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

5

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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**No.: 5**

**Title: Engraving Military Insignia on Government-Furnished Headstones**

**Origin: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

WHEREAS, Abbreviations for military ranks, branches of service and military decorations are currently engraved on government-furnished headstones; and

WHEREAS, The Medal of Honor insignia is allowed to be inscribed on such headstones, in recognition of those who have received America's highest honor for bravery in combat; and

WHEREAS, Emblems of Belief (EOBs) were authorized for display on such headstones by the War Memorial Protection Act, passed by Congress in 2013; and

WHEREAS, The inclusion of military insignia on such headstones would have a positive impact on the dignity and solemnity of national cemeteries honoring those who served our country; and

WHEREAS, Military insignia are often engraved on headstones for veterans laid to rest in public cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, Laser technology, widely used in the monument industry since the 1990s, has made headstone inscriptions substantially more cost-effective; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to authorize the engraving of military insignia for combat-related decorations on government-furnished headstones; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That such authorization will pertain to all combat-related decorations, including the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Air Force Cross, Coast Guard Cross, Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal with "V" device (for valor), Purple Heart Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Combat Action Ribbon and Combat Medical Badge.**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

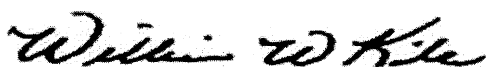
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Rejected

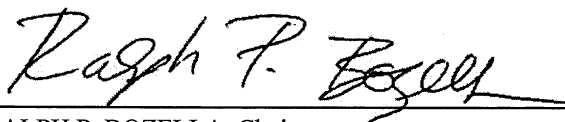
Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

6

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 6

Title: Minority Veterans

Origin: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

WHEREAS, Recent Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) statistics listed minority veterans represented about 22 percent of the total veteran population of 18.6 million; and

WHEREAS, VA projects minority veterans will make up approximately 36 percent of the total veteran population by 2040; and

WHEREAS, The National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics estimated that the minority veteran population totaled nearly 4.7 million at the end of 2017, which was estimated to be about 1 in 5 living veterans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, That proportion is projected to increase to about 1 in 3 living veterans in the United States by 2045; and

WHEREAS, According to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services data, disparities in health care have persisted over time in the United States for a wide range of conditions; and

WHEREAS, These disparities are associated with worse health outcomes and the presence of unmet health-care needs for minority veterans; and

WHEREAS, Studies show that minority veterans are more likely to depend upon the VA to provide all or some of their health care; and

WHEREAS, Across all veterans, significant disparities were detected between traditionally underserved minority groups and white veterans in their ability to obtain needed medical care; and

WHEREAS, Although VA's recent transformation achieved performance improvements in process of care measures for all veterans, gaps in clinical outcomes still persist for hypertension, cardiovascular care and diabetes care; now, therefore, be it

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

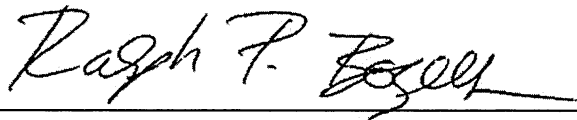
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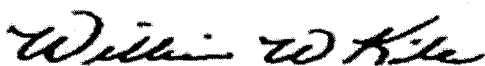
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

6

Held on  
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No.: 6

Title: Minority Veterans

Origin: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urge the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ensure that the health-care needs of all current and future minority veterans are met; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the VA increase the amount of outreach to minority veterans through awareness campaigns, benefits education and community organizations; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the VA continue efforts to focus on preventing, detecting and controlling clinical issues related to hypertension, cardiovascular care and diabetes care; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the VA continue to develop veteran-centered care initiatives for minority veterans, which can include delivery of culturally sensitive care in VA facilities; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the VA continue research that identifies causes of minority disparities in veterans' health and health care and as evidence-based treatments develop provide interventions to reduce these disparities.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

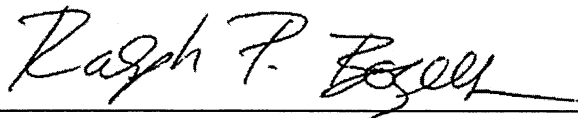
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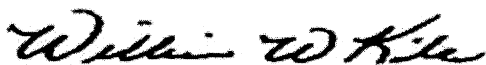
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

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Held on  
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No.: 7

**Title: Restore Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQ) to Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Website**

**Origin: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

WHEREAS, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs) are standardized forms used by medical experts who conduct compensation and pension (C&P) examinations for VA disability benefits purposes; and

WHEREAS, In March 2020, the VA removed the DBQs from its website; and

WHEREAS, DBQs are an important tool that can be used to obtain medical information from private medical examiners to support a veteran's claim; and

WHEREAS, Information included on a DBQ completed by a private medical expert is valuable medical evidence that the VA must consider when deciding a claim for disability benefits; and

WHEREAS, DBQs address a range of medical conditions and include check-the-box inquiries designed to elicit the information needed for the VA to make determinations on the issues of service connection and the proper disability rating for a condition; and

WHEREAS, Eliminating public-facing DBQs may cause veterans to be denied entitlement to benefits they have earned through their service; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urges the Department of Veterans Affairs to restore public-facing Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs) on its website.**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

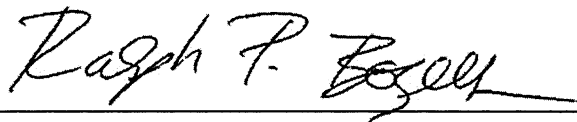
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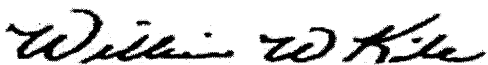
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

8

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

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No.: 8

Title: Department of Veterans Affairs Revise the Definition of "Vietnam Era"

Origin: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

WHEREAS, The Vietnam War Commemoration recognizes all men and women who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975; and,

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense recognizes November 1, 1955, as the beginning date of the United States military involvement in the Republic of Vietnam, when the U.S. Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG), composed of roughly 5,000 officers and enlisted men began operations; and

WHEREAS, According to Title 38, United States Code, Section 101(29)(A), the Department of Veterans Affairs currently defines the "Vietnam Era" as (1) the period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May 7, 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period, or (2) the period beginning on August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7, 1975, in all other cases; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion supports legislation to amend Title 38, United States Code, Section 101(29)(A) to revise the definition of the "Vietnam Era" to begin on November, 1, 1955.**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

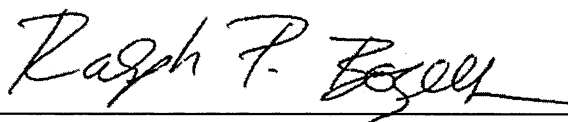
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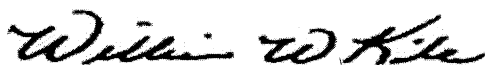
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

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Held on  
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**No.: 9**

**Title: Support Walkway in Arlington National Cemetery on Chaplains Hill**

**Origin: Resolution No. 9 (NC) 2017 National Convention**

WHEREAS, For many years, during all of America's conflicts, chaplains have provided extraordinary service to members of the military; and

WHEREAS, Chaplains Hill sits atop a 30 foot hill facing Eisenhower Drive, in Arlington National Cemetery, located in Section Two, and contains four monuments; World War One Chaplains, Catholic Chaplains Memorial, Protestant Chaplains Monument, and Jewish Chaplains Monument, honoring over 200 Chaplains who died in service; and

WHEREAS, The monuments honor by name each of the "Four Chaplains" lost on the troop ship SS Dorchester in 1943, one of the greatest stories of heroism and selfless service in American History; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion supports the construction of a walkway in Arlington National Cemetery on Chaplains Hill without any financial obligation from the national organization, based on a design meeting American Disability Act requirements by the Department of the Army; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That necessary approvals from the Department of the Army and the United States Congress be sought.**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

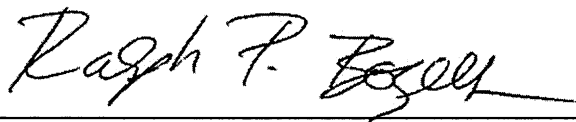
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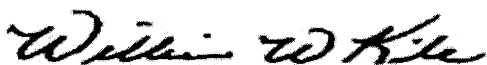
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission





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National Executive Committee

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No.: 10

**Title: Stellate Ganglion Block (SGB) Research For Treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)**  
**Origin: Register Resolution No. 2771 (CA) Department Convention**

WHEREAS, Every June is designated as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Month” to help raise public awareness, reduce the associated stigma, and help ensure that those individuals suffering from the invisible wounds of war promptly receive proper treatment; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) reports that approximately 20% Iraqi Freedom, 12% Persian Gulf and 30% Vietnam War servicemembers and veterans have post-traumatic stress; and

WHEREAS, Both government and non-government organizations have made significant advances in their identification, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of post-traumatic stress; and

WHEREAS, One of the most promising post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) treatments is stellate ganglion block (SGB) and the VA Long Beach Healthcare System, in California, and the Veterans Affairs Center for Compassionate Care Innovation are leading an effort to offer stellate ganglion block to a subset of veterans who have not experienced relief from traditional PTSD treatments; and

WHEREAS, There is growing evidence that stellate ganglion block may alleviate certain PTSD symptoms such as hyperarousal, exaggerated startle responses and anxiety, and it appears to calm an exaggerated “fight or flight” survival reflex in people having PTSD, which can become triggered by various events that do not warrant it; and

WHEREAS, Veterans who received stellate ganglion block for other health conditions like nerve pain, report positive effects for the PTSD symptoms including reduced anxiety and hypervigilance; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urges the federal government to accelerate stellate ganglion block (SGB) research and that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) advertise SGB in all VA health-care facilities; and be it finally**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

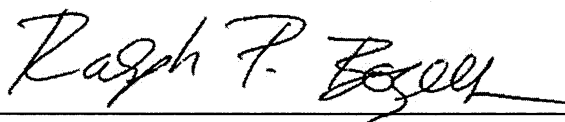
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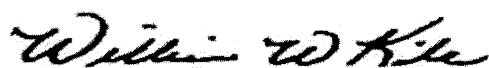
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

10

Held on  
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No.: 10

Title: Stellate Ganglion Block (SGB) Research For Treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Origin: Register Resolution No. 2771 (CA) Department Convention

RESOLVED, That The American Legion supports the expansion of the VA's Center for Compassionate Care Innovation program nationwide and throughout VA facilities and to further the Center for Compassionate Care Innovation program's mission to provide veterans a wide array of state-of-the-art treatments and evidence-based therapies with further research, innovation and access.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

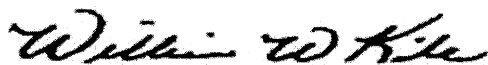
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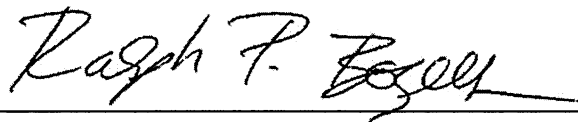
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Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

11

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 1 of 2

No.: 11

Title: Mare Island Naval Cemetery

Origin: Register Resolution No. 2773 (CA) Department Convention

WHEREAS, The Mare Island Naval Cemetery is the oldest naval cemetery on the West Coast and it is the final resting place for over 860 of our country's heroes who served between the War of 1812 and World War I and it is designated as a National Historic Landmark with three Congressional Medal of Honor recipients buried there, namely James Cooney-USMC, William Halford-USN and Alexander Parker-USN; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 93043 dated June 18, 1973, mandated that jurisdiction over naval cemeteries, including The Mare Island Naval Cemetery should have been transferred from the Navy to the Veterans Administration, however that law was somehow ignored by the Navy and the Veterans Administration in 1973, and during the Base Realignment and Closure Process in 1993, the federal government left the Mare Island Naval Cemetery behind and did not provide any funding to restore it to honorable conditions nor any support for its immense ongoing maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Mike Thompson (CA-05) and Senator Dianne Feinstein introduced legislation in 2018, and these bills directed the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to seek an agreement with the city of Vallejo to transfer control of The Mare Island Naval Cemetery to the VA, but neither bill was voted on in 2018; and

WHEREAS, On June 13, 2018, the Honorable Denise Rohan, the American Legion's National Commander for 2017-2018, stated, "Showing respect for the dead that served our country is one of the most important things we can do, and the Mare Island Naval Cemetery holds the graves of many veterans to include three Medal of Honor recipients, and two million members of The American Legion wholeheartedly support moving this facility to the care of the National Cemetery Administration and thank Representative Thompson for his leadership"; and

WHEREAS, California State Resolution #26, authored by State Senator Bill Dodd and chaptered on June 26, 2018, urged "the Congress of the United States to act favorably in regard to legislation to have the Mare Island Naval Cemetery transferred to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs"; and

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

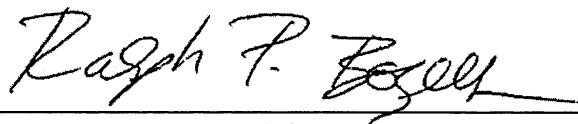
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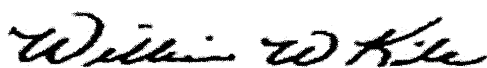
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

**11**

**Held on  
October 14-15, 2020**

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**No.: 11**

**Title: Mare Island Naval Cemetery**

**Origin: Register Resolution No. 2773 (CA) Department Convention**

WHEREAS, On January 15, 2019, Congressman Thompson and Senator Feinstein re-introduced similar bills, "To direct the Secretary of Veteran Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the city of Vallejo, California, for the transfer of The Mare Island Naval Cemetery in Vallejo, California, for other purposes," and "the National Cemetery Administration shall maintain the cemetery as a national shrine"; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion supports legislation that transfers the Mare Island Naval Cemetery in Vallejo, California to the Department of Veterans Affairs; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion recommends that the National Cemetery Administration maintain the Mare Island Cemetery as a national shrine.**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

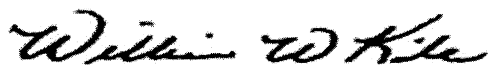
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Rejected

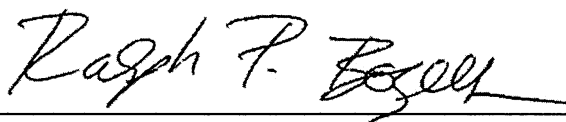
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Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

12

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 12

Title: Support Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Research of Personalized Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (PrTMS)

Origin: Register Resolution No. 2775 (CA) Department Convention

WHEREAS, According to the American Journal of Preventative Medicine, veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) have twice the risk of dying from accidental injury, viral hepatitis and suicide compared to the general population; and

WHEREAS, According to the most recent report published by the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) in 2016, which analyzed 55 million veterans' records from 1979 to 2014, indicated that an average of 20 veterans a day die from suicide; and

WHEREAS, Transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) is a non-invasive neurostimulation procedure that has been investigated for more than a decade in diagnostic and therapeutic applications which the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared several devices when used in accordance with guidelines and the technique has proven to be safe with generally rare and relatively minor side effects; and

WHEREAS, The efficacy of TMS has been examined in many disorders including depression, PTSD, schizophrenia, autism, substance abuse, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's disease and in the treatment of brain injury due to trauma or stroke; and

WHEREAS, Personalized repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (PrTMS) is a drug free, non-invasive, therapeutic treatment approach that has shown the ability to reduce symptom severity for patients who have PTSD, traumatic brain injury (TBI), anxiety, depression, insomnia and many other neurocognitive disorders; and

WHEREAS, It is the personalized version of transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) treatment, which has been cleared by the FDA for treatment of drug-resistant depression migraines for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, A physician will design a customized treatment plan using PrTMS based on three domains; the industries' "gold-standard" assessments, a diagnostic electroencephalogram (EEG), and a physician interview with the patient; and

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

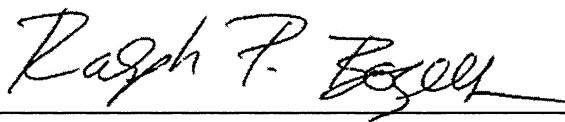
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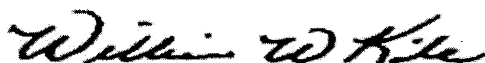
Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

12

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 12

Title: Support Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Research of Personalized Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (PrTMS)

Origin: Register Resolution No. 2775 (CA) Department Convention

WHEREAS, The number of PrTMS treatments needed will depend on the individual's diagnosis, severity of symptoms, and response rate, with a patient typically receiving daily treatments for at least 6-8 weeks (the treatment process can be accelerated if the procedures are done twice a day) and that patients with a positive response will start to feel results within a few weeks of starting treatment, with some feeling relief within a few days; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urges the federal government to accelerate research for the use of personalized repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (PrTMS) and that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) advertise PrTMS in all VA medical facilities; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That the VA expand the Center for Compassionate Care Innovation-led clinical demonstration nationwide.**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

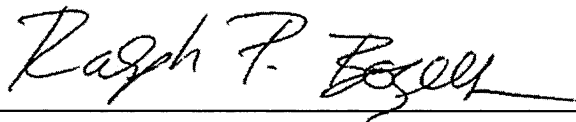
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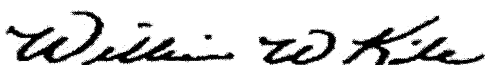
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RALPH P. BOZELLA, Chairman  
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission



**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

**13**

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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Page 1 of 1

**No.: 13**

**Title: Support “Buy American” Policy within the Federal Government to Create Opportunities for Veterans**

**Origin: Veterans Employment & Education Commission**

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the weaknesses in America’s supply chain and national stockpile of emergent and essential supplies and experienced critical product shortages in the nation’s time of need; and

WHEREAS, The outsourcing of manufacturing and raw material production has undermined America’s national and economic security and created an over-reliance on foreign-made products; and

WHEREAS, Increasing the number of manufacturers in the America will create more well-paying, skill-based jobs for veterans and increase their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Federal agencies will often divert large shares of their annual budget to contracts with larger businesses selling foreign-made products, even when the same or similar products made in America are available at the same or lower pricing; and

WHEREAS, The federal government through its collective purchasing power, can programmatically incentivize the return of domestic manufacturing of emergency supplies to prevent supply chain breakdowns in future national emergencies; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion supports legislation that mandates all federal agencies adopt and enforce a “Buy American” policy in the procurement of goods and services to the highest extent possible; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion supports legislation and policy that incentivizes the return of manufacturing from overseas and the creation of more domestic manufacturers.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

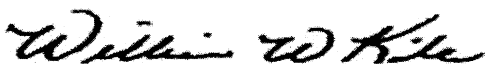
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



REV. DANIEL J. SEEHAFFER, Chairman  
Veterans Employment & Education Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

14

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 14

Title: Post 9/11 Transfer of Educational Benefits

Origin: Register Resolution No. 2772 (CA) Department Executive Committee

WHEREAS, Our servicemembers and our veterans have risked their lives to protect our freedom, and their families who collaterally sacrificed, deserve every possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental and educational well-being as more than 2,770,000 of our troops have deployed overseas since September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, In the military operations after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, over 959,701 reservists have been involuntarily and/or were voluntarily placed on active duty according to the Congressional Research Service; and

WHEREAS, The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act, also known as the "Forever GI Bill," was signed into law on August 17, 2017, and it brought significant changes to veterans education benefits; and

WHEREAS, The Forever GI Bill states, that as of August 1, 2018, veterans who transferred entitlement to a dependent can now designate a new dependent if the original dependent dies, and if the veteran dies, a dependent who received transferred entitlement can now designate a new eligible dependent of the veteran to transfer any of the dependent's remaining entitlement; and

WHEREAS, The Forever GI Bill states that even though a veteran may be eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill, they must also be a current member of the armed forces (active duty or selected reserve, officer or enlisted) on or after August 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, The Forever GI Bill did not address the transfer of educational benefits for veterans that served after 9/11 but were separated before August 1, 2009, because those veterans did not transfer their educational benefits according to [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/factsheets/Transferability\\_Factsheet.pdf](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/factsheets/Transferability_Factsheet.pdf); now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urges the federal government to pass legislation that must allow the hundreds of thousands of veterans that served after September 11, 2001, but were separated before August 1, 2009 to transfer their educational benefits.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

*William W. Kite*

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



REV. DANIEL J. SEEHAFFER, Chairman  
Veterans Employment & Education Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

15

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 15

Title: Authorizè Issuance Of Temporary Charters To Foreign Posts (Puerto Rico, France and Hawaii)  
Origin: Membership & Post Activities Committee

WHEREAS, Application for the issuance of temporary charters to posts outside of the continental United States are received and were properly endorsed by officers of the departments which will accept responsibility for supervision, and all are in conformity with Resolution No. 42, adopted by the National Executive Committee at its meeting of April 29-30, May 1, 1959; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the national adjutant is authorized to issue a temporary charter to the following posts to be affiliated with the named departments:

1. Expeditionary Post DR01, located in Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic and affiliated with the Department of Puerto Rico.
2. Sgt. Thomas Oliver Ahlberg Memorial Post TH02, located in Pattaya, Thailand and affiliated with the Department of France.
3. Returning Warriors Post 0022, located in Majuro, RMI (Marshall Islands) and affiliated with the Department of Hawaii.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

*William W. Kille*

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

*John W. Bowen*

JOHN W. BOWEN, Chairman  
Membership & Post Activities Committee

*Robert E. Newman*

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

16

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 16

Title: National Global War on Terrorism Memorial

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion adopted Resolution No. 16, National Executive Committee, May 10-11, 2017, Subject: National Global War on Terrorism Memorial which supported wavier of the 10-year requirement after ending the war to start the process to start construction; and

WHEREAS, The wavier was approved and now the process has started with design and site selection; and

WHEREAS, The Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation is asking for The American Legion's support for the site selection for a prominent place in the National Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No.16 (NEC, May 2017) will not be rescinded at this time; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of the American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion goes on record with Congress in support of the construction of a memorial dedicated to the Global War on Terrorism in a prominent location in the National Capital Region without financial obligation by The American Legion; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That national American Legion media channels be utilized to advance awareness to our membership on the progress of the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

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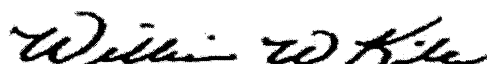
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

17

Held on  
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Page 1 of 2

No.: 17

Title: Support for Review of Minority Awards of Medal Of Honor WWI and Subsequent Wars/Conflicts

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, At the outbreak of hostilities in Europe in what would become known as World War I, the United States initially pursued a policy of non-intervention; and

WHEREAS, German U-boats sank the RMS Lusitania on 7 May, 1915, causing President Woodrow Wilson to demand an end to unrestricted submarine warfare, to which Germany complied; and

WHEREAS, In 1917, Germany resumed a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare, and with the subsequent sinking of seven U.S. merchant ships by submarine the United States declared war on Germany; and

WHEREAS, The United States drafted 2.8 million men and by summer 1918 was sending 10,000 fresh soldiers to France every day; and

WHEREAS, General John J. Pershing allowed African-American combat regiments to be used in French divisions; and

WHEREAS, The 369th Infantry Regiment "Harlem Hellfighters" fought as part of the French 16th Division, and earned a unit Croix de Guerre for their actions at Chateau-Thierry, Belleau Wood, and Sechault; and

WHEREAS, While 121 men were awarded the Medal of Honor for actions during WWI, not one African-American soldier was awarded the Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, Only after review were two African-Americans, Freddie Stowers and Henry Johnson, awarded the Medal of Honor, but not until 73 years and 85 years after their combat actions in 1918; and

WHEREAS, Few other non-white soldiers, sailors, or Marines were awarded the Medal of Honor during WWI; and

WHEREAS, While the United States military conducted a review of Medal of Honor minority awards from WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War and all subsequent wars but no such systematic review was ever made of minority award of the Medal of Honor during WWI; and

WHEREAS, The United States will remain forever indebted to the bravery, valor, and dedication that the African-American, Hispanic, Asian, and other minorities displayed during a time of great national need; and

WHEREAS, The commitment and sacrifice of these veterans demonstrated a highly uncommon and commendable sense of personal bravery, devotion to comrades, duty, patriotism and honor in the finest traditions of the Medal of Honor; and

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

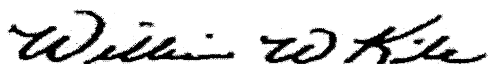
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Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

17

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 17

Title: Support for Review of Minority Awards of Medal Of Honor WWI and Subsequent Wars/Conflicts  
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The United States WWI Centennial Commission supports efforts to authorize a systematic review of valor medals awarded to minority servicemembers of WWI or other wars and conflicts, who may have been denied the higher medals due to racial bias; and

WHEREAS, The United States Congress has a proud tradition of recognizing all classes of veterans who served with uncommon valor; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 109, (Convention, August 28, 29, 30, 2018), Subject: "Support For Review Of Minority Awards Of Medal Of Honor WWI" was passed at the 100<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion fully supports legislation to lift statutes of limitations and other obstacles that may impede proper investigation and appropriate actions for minority veterans of all wars and conflicts whose military records and official descriptions of combat actions fully support consideration for award of the Medal of Honor and any other military medal; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 109, (Convention, August 28, 29, 30, 2018), Subject: "Support For Review Of Minority Awards Of Medal Of Honor WWI" is hereby suspended and rescinded with this updated resolution.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

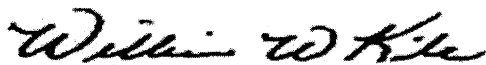
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Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

18

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 18

Title: The American Legion Canadian Friendship Award

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, One of the basic purposes of The American Legion is “to promote peace and good will on earth”; and

WHEREAS, The development of international friendship and good will is a desirable objective of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, For many years there has existed an ever-growing spirit of confraternity between veterans’ organizations of Canada and The American Legion on both sides of our shared border; and

WHEREAS, The manifestation of this great bond of comradeship between veterans organizations of two great nations exemplifies the capabilities of freedom-loving peoples to perpetuate international friendship; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion recognition of the role of veteran-citizens of a war-time ally and neighbor in the furtherance of this spirit of international good will and comradeship can be an important contribution in conveying to the entire world the strength of the friendship of the United States of America and Canada; and

WHEREAS, In May 1969, the National Executive Committee established The American Legion Canadian Friendship Award by Resolution No. 7, “Establish The American Legion Canadian Friendship Award”; and

WHEREAS, This resolution is merely updating who processes the award at national headquarters and broadens the category for who the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada is recommending to those individuals involved with veterans affairs in Canada; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the “The American Legion Canadian Friendship Award” is awarded under the following specifications:**

1. The award shall be in the form of an appropriately designed citation and medal.
2. It shall be awarded to specific individuals involved in veterans’ affairs as recommended by members of an authentic veterans’ organization in Canada to wit the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

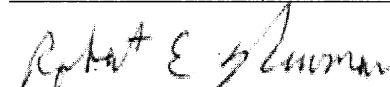
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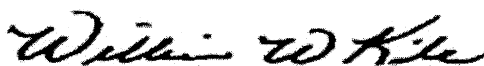
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

18

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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Page 2 of 2

No.: 18

Title: The American Legion Canadian Friendship Award

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

3. It shall be awarded to such individuals in recognition of outstanding service in the field of veterans' affairs and in the development and perpetuation of the spirit of international goodwill and comradeship between United States and Canada and between their veterans' organization and The American Legion.
4. Nominations for such awards may be made by any member of The American Legion in good standing to the Internal Affairs Commission under such procedures established by that commission which are consistent with the effective administration of such an award.
5. The Internal Affairs Commission is responsible for the administration of this award; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 7 (NEC, May 1969), "Establish The American Legion Canadian Friendship Award" is hereby rescinded.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kile

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Robert E. Newman

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

19

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 19

Title: Updated Program Guidelines for the American Legion Riders (ALR) National Program

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, American Legion Riders (ALR) was established in 1993 as a post level activity at Garden City American Legion Post 396, Department of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 35: "American Legion Riders as a National Program," NEC, October 17-18, 2007 and Resolution No. 32: "Amendment to Resolution No. 35," NEC, May 4-5, 2011 were guiding documents for the formation of post and department ALR programs under the support of the hosting posts and departments, and those guidances are combined in this resolution; and

WHEREAS, Today there are more than 2,100 ALR chapters at the post and department levels whose membership consists of members of The American Legion, Sons of The American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary who share a common interest in motorcycle ownership and pleasure riding for veterans' causes; and

WHEREAS, The ALR has expanded to more than 150,000 members, 2,100 local chapters in all 50 domestic departments and in two foreign departments; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the ALR is to use their common interest and association to promote the aims and purposes of The American Legion as well as the promotion of motorcycle safety and awareness; and

WHEREAS, Since 2014, ALR has raised approximately 1 million dollars annually for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund while raising The American Legions brand awareness and penetration in their communities and promoting the American Legion Family; and

WHEREAS, Membership growth in The American Legion has increased in many posts that have supported ALR and in some cases, these members now serve in leadership positions within The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Many posts and departments of The American Legion have acknowledged ALR as a local program and are tasked with establishing guidelines for their ALR program to follow; and

WHEREAS, ALR supports those serving in uniform today through participation in such activities as the Patriot Guard, which was founded by the Department of Kansas ALR to provide escorts for our fallen heroes returning from war and taking care of the needs of the families left behind; and

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

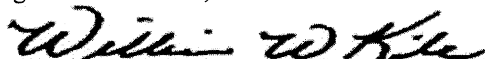
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Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

19

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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Page 2 of 4

No.: 19

Title: Updated Program Guidelines for the American Legion Riders (ALR) National Program

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, All ALR members shall strive to maintain the image of The American Legion, always upholding The American Legion name, and brand, which symbolizes the integrity and principles of this great organization; and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of The American Legion through the ALR Advisory Committee to review and amend, from time to time, such guidelines to provide more effective direction to The American Legion Riders programs in order to protect the trademarked emblems and copyrights of The American Legion (hereinafter "Emblems"); now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That all American Legion Riders (ALR) groups be a program supported by a post or department of The American Legion and shall uphold the declared principles of The American Legion as well as conform to and abide by the lawful regulations and decisions of the department, post or other duly constituted department governing body; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That because The American Legion owns, controls, protects and defends The American Legion's Emblems, the following guidelines are required to dictate protective standards over the Emblems:**

1. All members of the American Legion Riders shall be current members of The American Legion, Sons of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary.
2. Each ALR member shall establish and maintain membership by owning, individually or through marriage, a motorcycle licensed and insured as required by state law.
3. ALR programs may allow for continued membership for those members who have given up motorcycle ownership because of age, illness, injury, or other reasons outside the member's control.
4. All ALR members shall maintain the image of The American Legion and, protect the trademarked names and emblems, which symbolizes the integrity and principles of The American Legion organization.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

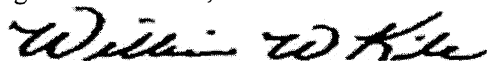
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Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

19

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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Page 3 of 4

No.: 19

Title: Updated Program Guidelines for the American Legion Riders (ALR) National Program

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

5. The American Legion Riders officers shall be called chairman, vice chairman, director, and/or assistant director. Commander and vice commander are not appropriate because the American Legion Riders is a program of a post or department. In order to retain the identity of the ALR as an association of motorcycle enthusiasts and not as a motorcycle club or biker club, the titles of "president, vice president and past president/vice-president" shall no longer be permitted. A transition period of one year from the date of this resolution's passage will be provided for departments/posts to update governing documents and to transition to these approved ALR leadership titles.
6. The only recognized American Legion Riders emblem and logo authorized are those sold through The American Legion Emblem Sales. No use of rockers touching the ALR patch are allowed because touching the ALR patch violates the trademark laws protecting the ALR patch.
7. ALR vests should display the integrity, principles, and values of The American Legion and the ALR by avoiding patches or pins with explicit or offensive language or images. All patches and pins of any groups displayed on the ALR vest shall share like values of The American Legion with regard to improving the lives of veterans, the military, the community and families, and these groups must be supportive of the principles of justice, freedom, democracy, and equality for all.
8. To maintain the image of The American Legion and its programs, ALR members while wearing any American Legion Riders apparel shall not display exposed weapons.
9. The American Legion Riders must represent the virtues, values, ethics, and morals of The American Legion in support of freedom, democracy, and the safety of our citizens. Affiliations of ALR programs with other groups and organizations that subscribe to the principles of and oppose our form of government by promoting anti-Americanism, anti-establishment, or pro-criminal culture shall not be permitted.
10. All ALR members shall obey the motorcycle laws of their state. This includes the proper motorcycle license endorsement in accordance with the rider's home state.

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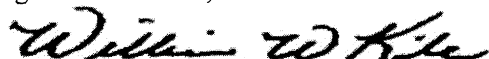
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Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

19

Held on  
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No.: 19

Title: Updated Program Guidelines for the American Legion Riders (ALR) National Program

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

11. The sponsoring organization (post and department) will review liability insurance coverage to ensure that adequate coverage is available to cover the organization to include coverage for any specific special riding events; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion Riders programs shall abide by The American Legion National Constitution and National By-laws, as well as the established post and department directives; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion National Headquarters and the respective departments shall maintain general oversight of the American Legion Riders program in regards to proper use of the Emblems of The American Legion, The American Legion Riders, and The American Legion Legacy Run, and compliance with The American Legion National Constitution and National By-Laws; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 35 (NEC, Oct 2007), Subject: "American Legion Riders as a National Program" and Resolution No. 32 (NEC, May 2011), Subject: "Amend Resolution 35 (NEC, Oct 2007), Subject: American Legion Riders as a National Program" are hereby superseded and rescinded.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation


Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

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Held on  
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No.: 20

Title: Commendation for Harvey P. Pratt, Designer of the National Native American Veterans Memorial  
Origin: Media & Communications Commission

WHEREAS, The Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian selected the design of Clinton, Okla., American Legion Post 401 Commander Harvey P. Pratt to be installed Nov. 11, 2020, in Washington, D.C., as the permanent National Native American Veterans Memorial; and

WHEREAS, Vietnam War Marine Corps combat veteran Pratt followed his military discharge with an internationally renowned career in law enforcement, primarily in forensic art and sculpture that led to successful identifications of missing persons and convictions of violent crime suspects; and

WHEREAS, Commander Pratt's "Warriors' Circle of Honor" design captures the spirit, courage and legacy of Native American service in the U.S. Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, The veteran artist's career and leadership as a Cheyenne Peace Chief, forensic detective in the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and Post 401 leader reflect the highest values of The American Legion, in service to community, state and nation; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion commends the National Native American Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., and salutes its designer, American Legion Post 401 Commander Harvey P. Pratt.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kite

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Walter W. Ivie

WALTER W. IVIE, Chairman  
Media & Communications Commission

Robert E. Newman

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

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October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 21

Title: The American Legion Patriot Award

Origin: Media & Communications Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion Patriot Award was authorized by Resolution No. 177, 2007 National Convention; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Patriot Award recognizes outstanding citizens who demonstrate a profound and exceptional commitment to military personnel and their families; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion values each of the four pillars upon which our great organization of men and women stands; and

WHEREAS, National Executive Committee Resolution No. 10, October 12-13, 2011, authorized the provisions under which The American Legion Patriot Award would be given; and

WHEREAS, Some deserving nominees for The American Legion Patriot Award are unable to attend the National Convention; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion Patriot Award shall be presented to a person or entity that advances any of the four pillars of The American Legion as determined and approved by the national commander; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the award shall consist of a black plaque with The American Legion gold emblem, a gold eagle and a copy block on the black glass printed in gold offset containing the name of the recipient and award text; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That how and when to present the award and any additional conditions will be determined and approved by the national commander; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That funds expended for annual purchase of plaques for The American Legion Patriot Award not exceed the amount approved by the Finance Commission within the Media & Communications operational budget each year; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 177, 2007 National Convention, titled "The American Legion Patriot Award" and Resolution No. 10, of the National Executive Committee, October 2011, titled "The American Legion Patriot Award" are hereby superseded and rescinded.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kile

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Walter W. Ivie

WALTER W. IVIE, Chairman  
Media & Communications Commission

Robert E. Newman

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

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**No.: 22**

**Title: Addressing the ‘Forever War’**

**Origin: National Security Commission**

WHEREAS, Nearly two decades after the fall of the World Trade Center and the attack on the Pentagon, American troops continue to wage war in Iraq, Afghanistan and lesser-known corners of the world; and

WHEREAS, Our servicemembers accomplished their original objectives in Afghanistan long ago at great cost — psychological, physical and spiritual; and

WHEREAS, The war on terrorism — the “forever war” or “endless war,” as many call it — has been used as the basis for an ever-expanding range of military actions; and

WHEREAS, James Madison wrote to Thomas Jefferson in 1798 “The Constitution supposes, what the History of all Governments demonstrates that the Executive is the branch of power most interested in war.... It has accordingly with studied care, vested the question of war in the Legislature”; and

WHEREAS, Congress has mostly abdicated their Article I responsibilities to authorize and oversee military actions by extensive, potentially permanent delegations of congressional war powers; and

WHEREAS, The post-9/11 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) has now been in effect for over twice as long as the 1964-1971 Gulf of Tonkin Resolution which gave U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson authorization, without a formal declaration of war by Congress, for the use of conventional military force in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, The Pentagon’s 2018 National Defense Strategy lays out a world where great-power competition, rather than counterterrorism, will drive the department’s decision-making and force structure; and

WHEREAS, Even a growing number of foreign policy officials have begun to advocate a drawdown in the Middle East and Central Asia because of what they call the opportunity costs to America’s mission of balancing against the “revisionist powers” of China and Russia; and

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

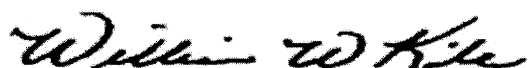
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Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

22

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**No.: 22**

**Title: Addressing the 'Forever War'**

**Origin: National Security Commission**

WHEREAS, The emphasis on bolstering a deterrent posture in Asia and Europe should have an attendant downward impact on the U.S. military's activities in the Middle East, Africa, and the Western Hemisphere; and

WHEREAS, From global pandemics to weak and fragile states, America faces an unprecedented number of complex global threats that cannot be solved by military power alone; and

WHEREAS, A disproportionate flow of resources is going to military and intelligence solutions along with a more general sidelining of diplomacy amid a continuing "militarization of foreign policy"; and

WHEREAS, Addressing the root causes of violent conflict overseas through development and diplomacy helps protect Americans and helps reduce the need to send our servicemembers into harm's way; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urges a renewal of a proper constitutional balance to American foreign policy decision-making by encouraging Congress to repeal and replace outdated Authorizations for Use of Military Force ; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion advocate for the importance of a civilian-led approach of elevating development and diplomacy alongside a strong defense in order to build a better, safer world.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

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Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 23

Title: Pharmaceutical Independence Long-Term Readiness Reform

Origin: National Security Commission

WHEREAS, The United States has grown more dependent on foreign sourced raw materials, medicines, and vaccines for the Department of Defense of which most procured products and production comes from Asia; and

WHEREAS, An assessment of the resilience and capacity of the current pharmaceutical defense industrial base supply chain is necessary in order to identify gaps and ensure sufficient domestic manufacturing capacity; and

WHEREAS, When the secretary of defense determines there are shortages of pharmaceutical raw materials, medicine, or vaccines, the Department of Defense can use the Defense Production Act to acquire both "American-made" products and products from trusted foreign allies; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion support efforts to provide more stable and sustainable American-made and sourced raw materials, medications, and vaccines to ensure no shortages impact combat readiness and force protection while diversifying our supply chain to safeguard against potential threats from peer threats, state actors, and non-state actors.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

24

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No.: 24

Title: Support for Peaceful Conflict Resolution in the Country of Georgia

Origin: National Security Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion supports the continued development of democratic values of Georgia's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, while supporting Georgia's Euro-Atlantic and European integration; and

WHEREAS, We condemn ongoing detentions, kidnappings, and other human rights violations committed in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia which have been forcibly occupied by the Russian Federation, including the killings of Georgian citizens Archil Tatumashvili, Giga Otkhoshvili, and Davit Basharuli; and

WHEREAS, Establishing security mechanisms for the safe and dignified return of internationally displaced persons and refugees is important for lasting peace and security in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Enhancing assistance to combat Russian disinformation and propaganda intended to undermine the sovereign democratic institutions of Georgia will promote freedom of the press; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the American Legion support a peaceful conflict resolution in Georgia, in conjunction with the Russian Federation, and urges the Russian Federation to fully implement the European Union-mediated ceasefire agreement of August 12, 2008; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That Congress mandate a detailed assessment of Russian disinformation and propaganda efforts across all media platforms targeting Georgia, to include an assessment of Georgia's capabilities to deter and combat Russian disinformation campaigns.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission



**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

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**No.: 25**

**Title: Funding For Protection Of The National Power Grid Against Electromagnetic Pulse Attack**

**Origin: Register Resolution No. 2778 (IL) Department Convention**

WHEREAS, The American Legion has established the four pillars of service of our great organization, namely, national defense, Americanism, children and youth, and veterans affairs and rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, The United States depends on a power grid for virtually all modern life functions and necessary essential services; and

WHEREAS, The United States power grid is vulnerable to electromagnetic pulse (EMP), high altitude electromagnetic pulse (HEMP) and solar flares; and

WHEREAS, EMPs affect all electronics including military and civilian communications, computers, cellphones and transformers; and

WHEREAS, Adversaries and potential enemies have current capability to create EMPs with missile capability to deliver high altitude nuclear weapons over the United States; and

WHEREAS, Such EMPs can impair our defense capability for as much as five years, thereby compromising United States security; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the American Legion urge Congress to approve funding to harden and protect the deteriorating United States power grid, such action being necessary for the continued defense of the United States should an electromagnetic pulse attack on the United States occur.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

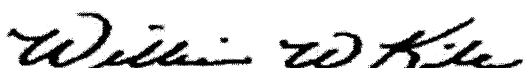
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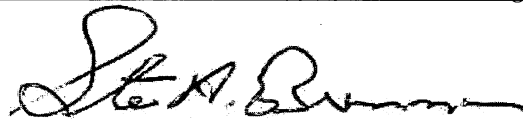
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Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

26

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 26

Title: Support For The United States Space Force

Origin: National Security Commission

WHEREAS, Space is critical to the American way of life with our dependency on satellites for commerce, communications, power grids, air and ground transportation, emergency services, and national security; and

WHEREAS, Over 2,200 operational satellites are in orbit, with over 1,000 owned and operated by United States firms and the United States government agencies or military units, in support of a space-based economy of over \$415 billion; and

WHEREAS, Freedom of the seas was essential to the United States' economic and national security in previous centuries, so is space essential for our continued economic and national security in the 21<sup>st</sup> century; and

WHEREAS, Service personnel of all branches of the military are critically dependent on the services provided by our space assets with a typical Army brigade having over 2,000 pieces of equipment that rely on space assets to function; and

WHEREAS, Today's warfighter's battlefield superiority is dependent on our space assets in that those who control space controls the land, sea, and air battlefield environment; and

WHEREAS, China and Russia view space as a critical United States military and economic vulnerability and both are developing doctrine and weapon systems geared toward damaging or interfering with opposing force navigation, reconnaissance and communications satellites; and

WHEREAS, Virtually every United States president, since John F. Kennedy has called for the United States to occupy "a position of pre-eminence" in space, and has recognized the importance of space to our national defense; and

WHEREAS, On 1 September 1982 the Space Force was initially formed as Air Force Space Command within the Air Force "to avoid a space Pearl Harbor"; and

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

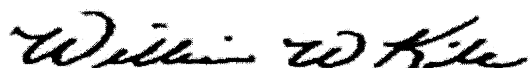
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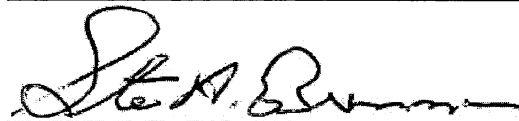
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Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

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Held on  
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No.: 26

Title: Support For The United States Space Force

Origin: National Security Commission

WHEREAS, The Congress and president formally created the U.S. Space Force as a separate military service on 20 December 2019, with the signing of the United States Space Force Act, part of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2020; and

WHEREAS, The cornerstone responsibilities of the United States Space Force are: preserve freedom of action, enable joint lethality and effectiveness, and provide independent options fed by the core competencies of space security, combat power projection, space mobility and logistics, information mobility, and space domain awareness; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urges Congress to appropriately support the United States Space Force's commitment to attract, retain, and train quality people who will be molded into a force capable of flexibly responding to threats to America's national and economic security that will enhance readiness through its continued focus on total force integration and modernization programs that will maintain America's dominance in space well into the 21st century.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation


Approved

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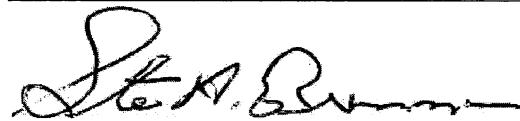
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Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

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Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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**No.: 27**

**Title: Sustaining Counterterrorism Efforts**

**Origin: National Security Commission**

WHEREAS, The American Legion is an organization of wartime veterans created by an act of the United States Congress in 1919; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion is committed to the security and defense of the United States and its allies; and

WHEREAS, In any war, continued public support not only for the troops, but also for their mission, is essential for victory; and

WHEREAS, The United States of America was suddenly, and without provocation, attacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001, resulting in the death of nearly 3,000 innocent people, injuring over 6,000 victims, and causing untold economic damage to the nation; and

WHEREAS, This attack was not an isolated event, but one in a long series of terrorist attacks aimed at destroying such core American values as liberty, democracy and respect for human rights; and

WHEREAS, In response to this clear act of war against the United States, Congress authorized the use of military force against those persons and organizations who planned and helped carry out the attack, their affiliates and those that harbored them, and to deter and pre-empt future acts of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Our servicemembers have made tremendous sacrifices over the past decade in fighting the forces of tyranny and terror; and

WHEREAS, Members of the United States military and intelligence agencies, displaying great courage and commitment to the mission, are still deployed around the world in support of counterterrorism efforts, including Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, the Philippines, and elsewhere; and

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation


Approved

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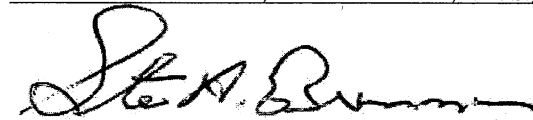
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Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

27

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 27

Title: Sustaining Counterterrorism Efforts

Origin: National Security Commission

WHEREAS, While the U.S. and our allies have had great successes in the war on terrorism; global terrorist groups, and their sponsors, continue to operate in many locations and pose a grave threat to the national security of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense's 2018 National Defense Strategy lays out a world where great-power competition, rather than counterterrorism, will drive the department's decision-making and force structure; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion fully supports the men, women, and leadership of our armed forces as they are engaged in ongoing counterterrorism efforts; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion fully supports a joint force with a long-term strategic plan, ability to rapidly disperse new technologies, and devise new concepts of warfare that span the entire spectrum of conflict; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion fully supports a more effective, lethal, resilient, and rapidly innovative joint force, combined with a robust constellation of allies and partners, to sustain American influence, ensure favorable balances of power that will safeguard the free and open international order.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

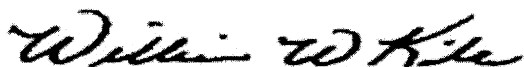
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Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



STEVEN A. BRENNAN, Chairman  
National Security Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

28

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020  
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No.: 28

Title: American Legion Baseball Regional Tournament Sites and Dates for 2021-2023

Origin: American Legion Baseball Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 9 of the National Executive Committee, May 2009, established that beginning with the 2011-2012 seasons, regional tournaments of the American Legion Baseball program may be sited in one location for one (1) year or for two (2) consecutive years, based on accessibility and central location as determined by open bids using objective, weighted evaluation criteria; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 30 of the National Executive Committee, May 2018, established the sites and dates for regional tournaments of the American Legion Baseball program for 2019 and 2020; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the Americanism Commission to recommend the sites and dates for the regional tournaments of American Legion Baseball; and

WHEREAS, Due to the uncertainty of the duration of the disease known as COVID-19, the numerous government regulations being enforced to contain it and concern for the safety of all members of the American Legion Family, the Americanism Commission agreed that the circumstances constituted sufficient reasons to cancel the 2020 national tournaments, including regionals and World Series; and

WHEREAS, It is the recommendation of the Americanism Commission that the sites awarded regional tournaments of the American Legion Baseball program for 2020 remain the national tournament sites for 2021; and

WHEREAS, It is customary that the sites for regional tournaments be selected in advance; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the dates for 2021 regional tournaments of the American Legion Baseball program shall remain August 3-8, 2021; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That sites for the 2021 regional tournaments of the American Legion Baseball program be awarded as follows:**

**Region 1 – Shrewsbury, Massachusetts**

**Region 3 – Montgomery, Alabama**

**Region 5 – Elmhurst, Illinois**

**Region 7 – Gillette, Wyoming**

**Region 2 – Asheboro, North Carolina**

**Region 4 – Hastings, Nebraska**

**Region 6 – Sioux Falls, South Dakota**

**Region 8 – Fairfield, California; and, be it further**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

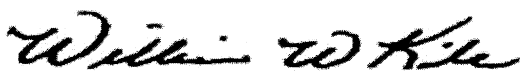
Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action


Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



GARY A STONE, Chairman  
American Legion Baseball Committee



RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

28

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020  
Resolution

Page 2 of 2

No.: 28

Title: American Legion Baseball Regional Tournament Sites and Dates for 2021-2023

Origin: American Legion Baseball Committee

RESOLVED, That the dates for 2022 and 2023 regional tournaments of the American Legion Baseball program shall be August 3-7, 2022, and August 2-6, 2023; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That sites for the 2022 and 2023 regional tournaments of the American Legion Baseball program be awarded as follows:

Region 1 – Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

Region 2 – Morgantown, West Virginia

Region 3 – Asheboro, North Carolina

Region 4 – Montgomery, Alabama

Region 5 – Midland, Michigan

Region 6 – Rapid City, South Dakota

Region 7 – Gillette, Wyoming (2022 only)

Region 8 – Fairfield, California; and, be it further

RESOLVED, In the event that a site having been awarded an American Legion Baseball regional tournament finds it is unable or it is impractical to hold a regional tournament, the National Adjutant, in consultation with the National Commander and National Judge Advocate, shall be authorized to select and approve an alternate tournament site; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 30 of the National Executive Committee, May 2018, titled “American Legion Baseball Regional Tournament Sites and Dates for 2019 and 2020”; Resolution No. 27 of the National Executive Committee, May 2019, titled “Addendum To American Legion Baseball Regional Tournament Sites for 2020”; and Resolution No. 1 of the National Executive Committee, Email 2020, titled “Addendum To American Legion Baseball Regional Tournament Sites For 2020” are hereby rescinded.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature


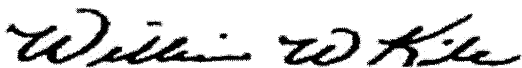
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Rejected

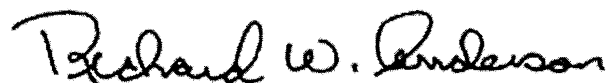
Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee



GARY A STONE, Chairman  
American Legion Baseball Committee



RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

29

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020  
Resolution

Page 1 of 2

No.: 29

Title: Amendment to Resolution No. 28 - "Updated Rules and Conditions for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program"

Origin: Committee on Youth Education

WHEREAS, The December 2011 change to the federal charter implemented by the U.S. Congress established that The American Legion National Organization may not control or otherwise influence the specific activities and conduct of state or local chapters, thereby giving American Legion departments the ultimate authority for establishing criteria for eligibility, selection, participation and operation of their own American Legion Boys State program; and

WHEREAS, Being two distinct corporate entities, The American Legion possesses no authority over American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs; and

WHEREAS, American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs therefore possess independent authority to determine the eligibility and selection criteria for students they wish to participate in their respective programs; and

WHEREAS, Samsung American Legion Scholarships are only available to participants of American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the Committee on Youth Education to recommend rules and conditions under which Samsung American Legion scholarships are awarded, with subsequent concurrence by the Americanism Commission of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Youth Education seeks to clearly establish eligibility to apply for a Samsung American Legion Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, The Americanism and Finance Commissions each have provided their concurrence to this resolution and recommend it to the National Executive Committee for its favorable action; now, therefore, be it

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

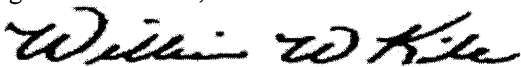
Approved

Rejected

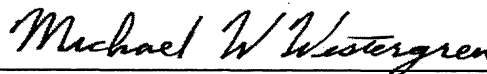
Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



MICHAEL WESTERGREN, Chairman  
Committee on Youth Education



RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

29

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 2 of 2

No.: 29

Title: Amendment to Resolution No. 28 - "Updated Rules and Conditions for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program"

Origin: Committee on Youth Education

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That sub-paragraph number 1 of the third Resolved clause of Resolution No. 28 of the National Executive Committee, May 2019, titled "Updated Rules and Conditions for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program" is amended to:

"1. The pool of 'Samsung American Legion State Finalists' will be comprised of one student from each American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program who are between their junior and senior years of high school and one student from The American Legion Department of Hawaii who is a young man between his junior and senior years of high school, until such time an American Legion Hawaii Boys State program may be established"

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

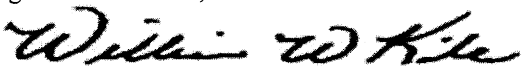
Approved

Rejected

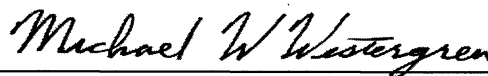
Referred to:

Other Action

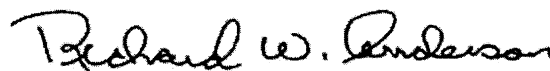
Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



MICHAEL WESTERGREN, Chairman  
Committee on Youth Education



RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

30

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020  
Resolution

Page 1 of 1

No.: 30

Title: American Legion Boys Nation Eligibility

Origin: Americanism Commission

WHEREAS, American Legion Boys State and American Legion Boys Nation have each provided a unique and highly successful youth program for high school boys that focuses on participation and practical experience in a model government at state and federal levels, respectively; and

WHEREAS, American Legion Boys Nation is a youth program administered by The American Legion National Organization, therefore the national organization possesses the authority to establish eligibility for participation in the Boys Nation program; and

WHEREAS, While the Americanism Commission may offer suggested guidelines for the operation of American Legion Boys State programs, the December 2011 change to the federal charter implemented by the U.S. Congress established that The American Legion National Organization may not control or otherwise influence the specific activities and conduct of state or local chapters, thereby giving American Legion departments the ultimate authority for establishing criteria for eligibility, selection, participation and operation of their own American Legion Boys State program; and

WHEREAS, The Americanism Commission of the national organization seeks to clearly establish eligibility criteria for participation in the American Legion Boys Nation program; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That each American Legion Boys State program may send two delegates of their and/or their department's choosing to attend American Legion Boys Nation that same year of selection; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That delegates attending American Legion Boys Nation must:**

- be between their junior and senior years of high school
- have one or two semesters of high school remaining; and, be it finally

**RESOLVED, That departments and/or American Legion Boys State programs evaluating delegates to attend American Legion Boys Nation are strongly urged to select those who during their Boys State experience displayed exceptional qualities of maturity, initiative, leadership, enthusiasm, good interpersonal skills and a genuine desire to learn.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kite

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Richard W. Anderson

RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

31

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020  
Resolution

Page 1 of 2

No.: 31

Title: American Legion Eagle Scout Of The Year Eligibility

Origin: Americanism Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion voiced its support of the Boy Scouts of America at its first national convention in 1919, making it the first recognized national youth activity of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion encourages its members to support and become involved in Scouting as a primary part of their service to God and country, their community, their state and their nation; and

WHEREAS, 1994 National Convention Resolution No. 165, September 6-8, 1994, established the name of the "Eagle Scout of the Year Award"; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 30 of the National Executive Committee, October 13-14, 2004, established eligibility requirements for the Eagle Scout of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion annually selects an Eagle Scout of the Year and three runners-up; and

WHEREAS, The winner of the competition receives a \$10,000 scholarship and the three runners-up each are awarded \$2,500 scholarships; and

WHEREAS, The Varsity Scout program was discontinued by Boy Scouts of America effective on January 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts program changed their name to Scouts BSA by the Boy Scouts of America effective on February 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Effective on February 1, 2019, the Boy Scouts of America expanded its membership to include young ladies, thereby making them eligible to earn the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, Current eligibility requirements state that "the nominee must be a registered active member of a Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew chartered to an American Legion Post, American Legion Auxiliary Unit, or Sons of the American Legion Squadron OR be a registered active member of a duly chartered Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew, and the son or grandson of a Legionnaire or American Legion Auxiliary member AND (1) Received the Eagle Scout award; (2) Be an active member of his religious institution and have received the appropriate Boy Scout religious emblem; (3) Demonstrate practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting and community; and (4) Reached his fifteenth birthday and be enrolled in high school at the time of selection"; and

WHEREAS, During its 2019 fall meeting the Americanism Commission approved the revisions that were developed and recommended by department Scouting chairmen for the American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year application in order to keep it relevant to both The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America; now, therefore, be it

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kile

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Richard W. Anderson

RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

31

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 2 of 2

No.: 31

Title: American Legion Eagle Scout Of The Year Eligibility

Origin: Americanism Commission

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That effective immediately eligibility requirements for the American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year be amended to read:

“Must be either a registered active member of a Boy Scouts of America unit that is chartered to an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit or Sons of the American Legion squadron OR be a registered active member of any chartered Boy Scouts of America unit and have a parent or grandparent possessing up-to-date membership in The American Legion or Sons of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary, and in the case of a recently deceased member, their membership for the year immediately prior to the current year may be used; AND each of the following: (1) Received the Eagle Scout award; (2) Received a Boy Scouts of America religious emblem, regardless of which youth grade level earned (Cub, Webelos, Scout, Venturer, or Older Scout); (3) Demonstrated practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting, and community; (4) Reached their 15th birthday and enrolled in high school at the time of selection; (5) Applied through The American Legion department of the state in which their Scout unit is chartered.”; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 30 of the National Executive Committee, October 2004, titled “American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year” is hereby superseded and rescinded.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kile

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Richard W. Anderson

RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

32

Held on  
**October 14-15, 2020**  
**Resolution**

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**No.: 32**

**Title: Risk Management Mandates for National Youth Programs**

**Origin: Americanism Commission**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 4 of the National Executive Committee, May 2012, titled "Background Screening Of Staff For National Youth Programs" initially mandated background check screening of staff of American Legion national youth programs in order to uphold the integrity and safety of youth and to mitigate the risk and liability to an organization; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 16 of the National Executive Committee, October 2012, titled "Mandatory Background Check Screening for Coaches, Managers and Volunteer Staff of Junior and Senior American Legion Baseball Teams" initially established policy and procedures for mandatory background screening for coaches, managers and volunteers of junior and senior American Legion Baseball teams; and

WHEREAS, Federal law (Public Law 115-126) titled "Protecting Young Victims From Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017" has been enacted requiring amateur youth sports organizations affiliated with a national governing body or non-affiliated organizations to develop policies and procedures to prevent the emotional, physical, and sexual abuse of amateur athletes; and

WHEREAS, American Legion Baseball is affiliated with the national governing body of USA Baseball; and

WHEREAS, USA Shooting is a National Governing Body member of the U.S. Center for SafeSport; and

WHEREAS, USA Shooting is the organization upon which The American Legion patterns its American Legion Junior Shooting program; and

WHEREAS, Because the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports National Tournament is administered by the national organization, the national organization therefore possesses the authority to impose mandates for the protection of minor children participating in that national tournament; and

WHEREAS, The aftermath of numerous cases of child sexual molestation across the nation has demonstrated the importance for diligent protection of vulnerable populations, such as children and youth; and

WHEREAS, It is paramount The American Legion meet its legal, moral and ethical responsibility to parents and guardians by protecting their children from abuse and harm when participating in any and all youth programs under the Legion brand; now, therefore, be it

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Hill

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Richard W. Anderson

RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

32

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020  
Resolution

Page 2 of 2

No.: 32

Title: Risk Management Mandates for National Youth Programs

Origin: Americanism Commission

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion, under the advice and guidance of the compliance and risk manager of the national organization and the national judge advocate, shall have policies and procedures established beginning in 2021 which mandates sexual abuse awareness training and criminal history background check screening for:

- American Legion Baseball program staff, coaches, managers, volunteers and adults 18 years of age or older who have regular contact with players who are minors
- Coaches, managers, volunteers and adults 18 years of age or older who have regular contact with minors who are in clubs affiliated with an American Legion post and who are participating in the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports National Tournament
- Those selected to staff national tournaments of American Legion Baseball, the American Legion Boys Nation program, the American Legion National Oratorical Contest, the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Shoulder-to-Shoulder National Championship, and National Boy Scouts of America Jamborees, or who are 18 years or older and have regular contact with program participants who are minors; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the national adjutant, after legal review and approval of the national judge advocate, be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute such contract(s) as may be necessary to support the execution of criminal history background check screening and/or sexual abuse awareness training; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That departments of The American Legion are strongly urged and encouraged to establish procedures and policies for sexual abuse awareness training and criminal history background check screening similar to those of the national organization for those 18 years or older who are selected to support youth programs conducted within their departments; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 4 of the National Executive Committee, May 2012, titled "Background Screening Of Staff For National Youth Programs" and Resolution No. 16 of the National Executive Committee, October 2012, titled "Mandatory Background Check Screening for Coaches, Managers and Volunteer Staff of Junior and Senior American Legion Baseball Teams" are hereby superseded and rescinded.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

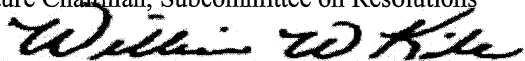
Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



RICHARD W. ANDERSON, Chairman  
Americanism Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

33

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 1 of 1

No.: 33

Title: TBI/PTSD Suicide Prevention Committee

Origin: Subcommittee on Resolutions

WHEREAS, In 2013, The National Executive Committee of The American Legion created a permanent committee to investigate the existing science and procedures as well as alternative methods for treating traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) not currently being employed by either the Department of Defense (DoD) or Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for the purpose of determining if such alternative treatments are practical and efficacious; and

WHEREAS, Since numerous persons with TBI or PTSD have subsequently committed suicide the work of the TBI/PTSD committee should now encompass suicide prevention; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That due to a progression of duties the TBI/PTSD Committee is renamed to "TBI/PTSD Suicide Prevention Committee"; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That all such references and use of the new committee name go into use as soon as reasonably possible.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

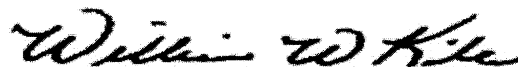
Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



WILLIAM W. KILE, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Resolutions

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

34

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

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No.: 34

Title: Direct Membership Solicitation (DMS) Program Update

Origin: Membership & Post Activities Committee

WHEREAS, The American Legion Direct Membership Solicitation (DMS) program has recruited more than 4,000,000 qualified members since its inception in 1981; and

WHEREAS, The DMS program continues to operate successfully, benefiting The American Legion at all levels, and it is therefore desirous that the program continues; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that the national organization recover the cost of the DMS program, since the national organization funds all acquisition costs of the DMS member; and

WHEREAS, Over the year's rules on handling DMS has changed several times and it is essential that an updated resolution with all approved procedures be published clarifying the program and handling of DMS members; and

WHEREAS, A local/traditional post is defined as one in the local community with an approved constitution and by-laws, approved charter, not administrative in nature and has a current slate of officers; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 16 (NEC, May 4-5, 2016), Subject: "Membership Credit be Given to Departments for Transferring First and Second Year Direct Mail Solicitation Members Into Local Posts" gave membership goal credit to the departments for engaging and transferring DMS members to local/traditional posts and this is incorporated in this updated resolution; and

WHEREAS, Under the current DMS program rules, the national organization retains all of the dues collected from such members when they initially join, and for two renewal cycles afterwards unless they transfer to a local/traditional post other than the department headquarters post, district/county headquarters post or any other administrative holding post; and

WHEREAS, In 2017, departments were allowed to see the contact information on encumbered members in myLegion.org in order to engage and transfer the members to a local/ traditional posts per Resolution No. 1, (NEC, May 10-11, 2017), Subject: "Make Contact Information for Newly Acquired DMS Members Immediately" and this provision is included in this updated resolution; and

WHEREAS, It is a known fact that member engagement increases the opportunity for the member to renew and all levels should establish a communication plan to enforce with the member the value of their membership; and

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kile

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

John W. Bowen  
JOHN W. BOWEN, Chairman  
Membership & Post Activities Committee

Robert E. Newman  
ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

Gaither M. Keener, Jr.  
GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

No.: 34

Title: Direct Membership Solicitation (DMS) Program Update

Origin: Membership & Post Activities Committee

WHEREAS, Those DMS members who are in the department's headquarters post and have not renewed for their second renewal or transferred to a local/traditional post as defined above will be coded encumbered on the national membership data base; and

WHEREAS, Despite the best efforts of posts and departments to transfer DMS-acquired members to traditional posts expeditiously, it is inevitable that a certain percentage of DMS-acquired members will remain in department headquarters posts after two renewal cycles for the duration of their membership; and

WHEREAS, The departments and posts should share in the revenue generated by those DMS-acquired members who either will not or have not been transferred to a traditional post and remain after the two renewal cycles in the said department's headquarters; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that any excess revenues be made available to departments once the total acquisition cost of DMS has been recovered; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion's Direct Membership Solicitation (DMS) program shall operate as follows:**

- 1. The national organization bears the full acquisition cost of DMS solicitations;**
- 2. The national organization will place newly acquired DMS members into each department's headquarters post, coded as encumbered so that they can be readily identified by the national organization as that year's DMS-acquired members;**
- 3. national organization retains all of the dues collected from such members when they initially join, and for two renewal cycles afterwards unless they transfer to a local/traditional post other than the department headquarters post, district/county headquarters post or any other created administrative holding post;**
- 4. Departments can access contact information for newly acquired DMS members through myLegion.org with the intent to engage and transfer to a local/traditional post if a member so desires;**
- 5. Pursuant to Article V Section 3 of The American Legion National Constitution, the coded DMS members acquired in each membership year shall count toward the respective department's delegate strength 30 days out from the National Convention and**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kite

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

John W. Bowen

JOHN W. BOWEN, Chairman  
Membership & Post Activities Committee

Robert E. Newman

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

Gaither M. Keener, Jr.

GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

34

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

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No.: 34

Title: Direct Membership Solicitation (DMS) Program Update

Origin: Membership & Post Activities Committee

- shall be coded in such a way that the appropriate department receives credit for the member;
6. Departments will receive immediate credit toward its national membership goals for DMS members who have paid dues for the upcoming year and transfers into a local/traditional post on or after July 1 of each membership year;
  7. During each membership year, the national organization shall contact the encumbered DMS members to engage, educate and enthuse them about their value of membership in The American Legion, and present them the opportunity to transfer, with their consent, to a local /traditional post;
  8. Those not transferred to a local/traditional post shall remain encumbered for two renewal cycles in the department's headquarters post during which time the national organization shall attempt to renew said member at a dues rate higher than any "DMS Introductory Offer" cited in the initial DMS mailing, and any revenues derived therein shall be retained by the national organization as per capita dues, and any excess amount shall also be retained to offset the cost of the entire DMS program;
  9. After the national organization has renewed any DMS-acquired member for the second time, that member will be turned over to the department, unencumbered, and the department shall retain all future membership revenues collected from that member except for the per capita dues owed to the national organization;
  10. The contact information on any coded DMS member who does not renew in any membership cycle (expired member) shall be made available to the respective department, and should the department reacquire said member, whether in a local/traditional post or the department's headquarters post, the department shall retain all dues revenue except that which may be owed to the local/traditional post or the per capita owed to the national organization; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That DMS members acquired for membership years 2021 and forward shall be retained as encumbered members by the national organization for no longer than two renewal cycles at which time they shall be turned over to their respective departments, unencumbered; and, be it further

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Hill

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

John W. Bowen

JOHN W. BOWEN, Chairman  
Membership & Post Activities Committee

Robert E. Newman

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

Gaither M. Keener, Jr.

GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

34

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 4 of 4

No.: 34

Title: Direct Membership Solicitation (DMS) Program Update

Origin: Membership & Post Activities Committee

RESOLVED, That any DMS-acquired member who has been transferred to a local/traditional post at any time during any renewal cycle shall thereafter be turned over to the respective departments, unencumbered, as soon as a legal transfer has been effected from the headquarters post; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 14, (NEC, Oct. 13-14, 2010), Subject: "Affirmative Consent for Transfer" remains in full force and effect; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 25, (NEC, Oct. 12-13, 2011, Subject: "Realignment of DMS Program") and Resolution No. 16 (NEC, May 4-5, 2016), Subject: "Membership Credit be Given to Departments for Transferring First and Second Year Direct Mail Solicitation Members Into Local Posts") and Resolution No. 1, (NEC, May 10-11, 2017), Subject: "Make Contact Information for Newly Acquired DMS Members Immediately") be, and are hereby, rescinded; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That all departments are strongly urged and encouraged to make a good faith effort to engage, renew or transfer as many DMS-acquired members as possible from their department headquarters posts as it is in the best interests of the entire American Legion to do so.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kile

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

John W. Bowen

JOHN W. BOWEN, Chairman  
Membership & Post Activities Committee

Robert E. Newman

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

Gaither M. Keener, Jr.

GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission

The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

35

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 1 of 2

No.: 35

Title: Insurance Requirements

Origin: Finance Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion's charter is codified in 36 USC 21701 et seq and under this statutory code, The American Legion may: (a) establish and maintain offices to conduct its activities, (b) sue and be sued, (c) establish state, territorial and post organizations, and (d) have the exclusive right to use, manufacture and control the adopted organization emblems; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion, its state, territorial and post organizations have the exclusive rights to use the name "The American Legion" or "American Legion" (collectively "Name"); and

WHEREAS, The names, emblems, trademarks and copyrights of The American Legion comprise The American Legion intellectual property (collectively "Tradenames"); and

WHEREAS, The American Legion's Tradenames consists of assets requiring legal and financial protections through insurance coverage, and

WHEREAS, It is recommended that The American Legion's state, territorial and post organizations have their own protective insurance coverage; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That because The American Legion owns, controls, protects and defends The American Legion's Tradenames, this resolution is necessary to dictate protective standards over the Tradenames; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion, via insurance policies, protect itself, and its Tradenames, from liability and subsequently strongly urges all American Legion departments, department-chartered intermediate bodies and posts do the same; and, be it further**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

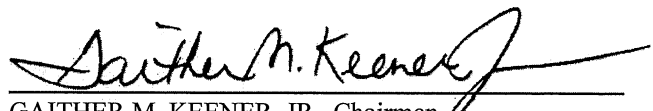
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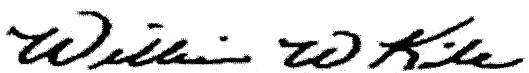
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

35

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

Page 2 of 2

No.: 35

Title: Insurance Requirements

Origin: Finance Commission

**RESOLVED**, That due to the need to protect The American Legion's Tradenames from liability it shall be required forthwith that when any American Legion department, department-chartered intermediate body, post or organization use The American Legion's Name or Tradenames and an insurance policy is obtained, the group utilizing this insurance policy shall specifically in the insurance policy hold The American Legion harmless and named as an additional insured on any, and all, insurance policies; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That The American Legion's national adjutant, or designee, has complete authority to independently investigate, confirm and report that any, and all, insurance policy(ies) purchased by an American Legion department, department-chartered intermediate body, post or organization shall specify that The American Legion is held harmless and named as an additional insured on any, and all, insurance policies; and, be it finally

**RESOLVED**, That The American Legion's National Executive Committee strongly urges that all American Legion departments follow similar courses of protective action, to wit: (1) require all of the department's own intermediate chartered bodies and posts that obtain insurance policies hold their respective American Legion departments harmless and also named as an additional insured on any, and all, insurance policy(ies) and (2) that the department adjutant, or said designee, have the complete authority to independently investigate, confirm and report that any insurance policy(ies) purchased by the department's intermediate body or post shall hold its respective department also harmless and named as an additional insured on any, and all, insurance policies.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

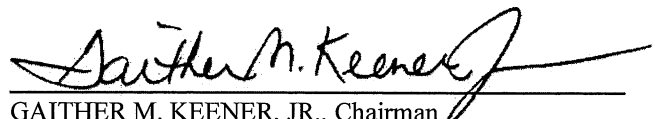
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Referred to:

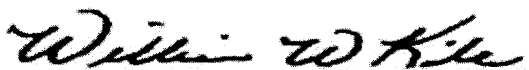
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission



The American Legion  
National Executive Committee

36

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

Resolution

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No.: 36

Title: Mission Blue C.A.P. (COVID Assistance Program)

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The United States of America is facing a public health crisis unseen since 1918 called the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, State and local public health protection ordinances place a limit on American Legion posts ability to derive support from its members and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, The financial damage created as a result of those public health protection ordinances will be felt for many years; and

WHEREAS, A post is the backbone of The American Legion and the financial stability of a post is necessary to complete the missions of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion desires to be of assistance to posts impacted by public health ordinances related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion National Emergency Fund was established to provide grants to American Legion posts in times of disaster and emergency; and

WHEREAS, The Internal Affairs Commission and Finance Commission has recommended approval; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the national commander is hereby authorized to establish a grant program titled "Mission Blue COVID Assistance Program," or "Mission Blue C.A.P." which will provide \$1,000 grants to applying and qualified American Legion posts impacted by the government's public health protection restrictions implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the national commander shall direct the Internal Affairs Commission through its Internal Affairs Division to screen, certify and cause grants to be distributed to qualifying posts; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That an American Legion post will be eligible for a Mission Blue C.A.P. grant after verification by the American Legion department adjutant that the post meets the criteria and requirements as outlined in addendum A, which are listed here:**

1. A post must have a consolidated post report on file.
2. A post must have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
3. A post must have filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the department.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kite

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Robert E. Newman

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

Gaither M. Keener, Jr.

GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission

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Held on  
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No.: 36

Title: Mission Blue C.A.P. (COVID Assistance Program)

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

4. A post must have actively participated in one or more American Legion program(s) within the last 18 months.
5. A post must have a financial need.
6. A post must provide a certificate of insurance naming The American Legion *dba* American Legion National Headquarters as an additional insured.
7. A post must provide documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the funds from a Mission Blue C.A.P. grant shall be used exclusively for the following:

1. Current and past due mortgage principal and interest,
2. Current and past due real estate rents,
3. Current and past due insurance premiums, and
4. Current and past due utilities; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an American Legion post receiving a Mission Blue C.A.P. grant will be required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the funds were used; and the report shall be signed by the post finance officer and certified by the post commander or post adjutant; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That payment for a Mission Blue C.A.P. grant shall be made available by funding in The American Legion National Emergency Fund; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That no more than \$5,000,000 (\$5 million dollars) shall be expended from The American Legion National Emergency Fund for the Mission Blue C.A.P. program, except that donations from elsewhere specifically designated to fulfill the intent of the program may be applied to same without limitation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion may solicit donations for Mission Blue C.A.P. from any sources as may be available provided that any and all monies raised shall be used to augment the \$5,000,000 commitment from The American Legion National Emergency Fund; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Finance Commission is authorized to make any changes to the program as it sees fit to carry out the intent of this resolution provided that the National Executive Committee is provided notification of changes made at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

William W. Kite

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Robert E. Newman

ROBERT E. NEWMAN, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Commission

Gaither M. Keener, Jr.

GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission



# MISSION BLUE C.A.P

COVID Assistance Program

## ABSTRACT

Mission Blue C.A.P. is a grant program designed to provide American Legion Posts with a \$1,000 grant to assist with essential expenses during an unprecedented time of local health ordinances that prevent posts from obtaining needed revenues

Staff Team: Jill Druskis      Jack Querfeld  
David Sutton      Nicholas Arnett  
Stacy Cope      Kevin Bartlett  
Dean Kessel      Shawn Long

Program Proposal August 2020



## PROGRAM OUTLINE

As a result of state and local health department restrictions, many posts across the country have been unable to conduct fundraising and other revenue generating activities. The loss of revenue has placed posts in financial distress. In an effort to assist, the national organization has created Mission Blue C.A.P. (COVID Assistance Program.) Mission Blue C.A.P. is grant program that will provide \$1,000 grants to American Legion Posts that are in good standing with the department. Mission Blue C.A.P. grants can be used to pay rent, mortgage, insurance and utilities. Posts will have until December 31, 2021 to apply. Grants will be funded by the National Emergency Fund with a commitment of up to 5 million dollars.

## POST QUALIFYING CRITERIA

A post must meet certain criteria to qualify for a Mission Blue C.A.P. grant. Each of the listed criteria must be certified as true by the Department Commander or Adjutant. A qualifying Post must meet the following:

1. have a consolidated post report on file.
2. have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
3. have filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the Department.
4. have actively participated in one or more American Legion program(s) within the last 18 months.
5. have a financial need.

And finally, a post must do the following:

1. provide a certificate of insurance naming The American Legion dba American Legion National Headquarters as an additional insured.
2. provide documentation indicating the post is properly incorporated.

## ELIGIBLE EXPENSE

The funds from a Mission Blue C.A.P. grant shall be used exclusively for the following:

- Current and past due mortgage principal and interest
- Current and past due real estate rents
- Current and past due insurance premiums
- Current and past due utilities

## POST GRANT REPORTING

A Post recipient of a Mission Blue C.A.P. grant will be required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the funds were used. The report will need to be signed by the Post Finance Officer and certified by the Post Commander or Post Adjutant.

## GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

Department leadership must verify that applicant posts meet all the qualifying criteria prior to submission of the grant application. Posts and departments do not need to submit any bills, receipts, or itemized expenses along with grant applications. The application must be filled out completely and accurately to prevent a delay in processing. Grant requests may be submitted in the fillable PDF format and sent via

Addendum A – Mission Blue C.A.P.

email to [IA@legion.org](mailto:IA@legion.org) or via online at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). Any questions regarding this grant should be directed to the Internal Affairs & Membership Division at (317) 630-1330 or [IA@legion.org](mailto:IA@legion.org). If additional information is needed during the application review, a Mission Blue C.A.P. administrator will contact the department. If the application is properly completed and all qualifying criteria & requirements are met, the Internal Affairs & Membership Division will endorse the application and forward a request for funds to be released. After review and approval by the National Adjutant, a check will be issued and forwarded to the department headquarters for distribution to the applicant post along with a grant fulfillment letter which will also include reporting instructions. If an application is incomplete and/or all the qualifying criteria have not been met, it will be returned to the department headquarters for amendment or further clarification. Any rejected applications will be returned to the department headquarters with reasons for disapproval so they may notify the applicant post.

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

37

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

**Resolution**

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No.: 37

Title: 2023 National Convention Contract

Origin: Convention Commission

WHEREAS, The Convention Commission has reviewed the status of the proposed National American Legion Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, August 25 – August 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Subject to receiving a properly executed contract from the American Legion National Convention Corporation of North Carolina, Inc., the Convention Commission believes that all conditions for a contract covering the American Legion National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, August 25 – August 31, 2023, have been satisfied; and

WHEREAS, The Convention Commission hereby recommends to the National Executive Committee that it enter into the appropriate contract with the American Legion National Convention Corporation of North Carolina, Inc.; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the national commander, after receipt of an executed contract from the American Legion National Convention Corporation of North Carolina, Inc., and the review and approval of same from the national judge advocate, be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said contract and the national adjutant, be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest to same.**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

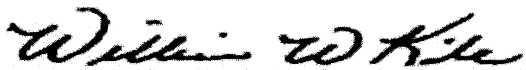
Approved

Rejected

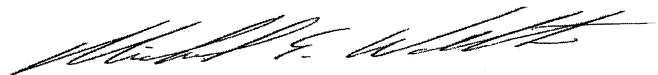
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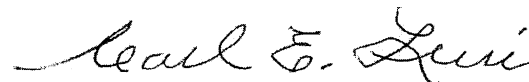
Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions



Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



MICHAEL E. WALTON, Chairman  
Convention Commission



CARL E. LEVI, Vice Chairman  
Finance Commission

**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee**

38

Held on  
October 14-15, 2020

**Resolution**

Page 1 of 1

**No.: 38**

**Title: Vision and Mission of The American Legion**

**Origin: Finance Commission**

WHEREAS, The National Executive Committee of The American Legion passed Resolution No. 5 in email format during the summer of 2020; and

WHEREAS, It has been determined that a more succinct and concise vision and mission statement is increasingly relevant; and

WHEREAS, It remains that a vision statement is a short succinct public statement of an organization's future and long-term directional goals; and

WHEREAS, It remains that a mission statement is a short succinct public statement of how an organization intends to fulfill its vision; and

WHEREAS, The vision and mission statements, along with the value principles and motto, help define the purpose of an organization, align the organization's resources toward a successful future, provide clear and effective decision guidance; form part of a business's strategic planning tool and publicly communicate the message; and

WHEREAS, In order that The American Legion has clear guidance to act in these turbulent times; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion modify the following vision statement: "*The American Legion: Veterans Strengthening America*"; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion modify the following mission statement: "*To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.*"**

Subcommittee on Resolutions Recommendation

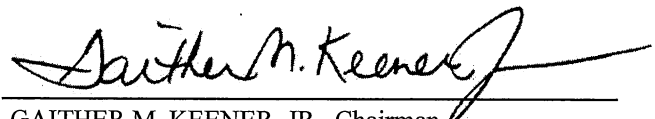
Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature



GAITHER M. KEENER, JR., Chairman  
Finance Commission

Signature Chairman, Subcommittee on Resolutions

