

## **Approved National Bylaws, Manual of Procedures, and Ritual**

B-4: Recommended by National Bylaws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE II – POSTS, ARTICLE IV – DISTRICTS, ARTICLE V – DEPARTMENTS

Sec. 202 – Bylaws., Sec. 402 – Bylaws., Sec. 502 – Bylaws.

Amend Sec. 202 – Bylaws., National Bylaws, in the first paragraph, by replacing “may” with “shall”.

Amend Sections 402 and 502 – Bylaws., National Bylaws, by replacing “may” with “shall”

And adding “may” in front of “amend”.

B-5: Proposed by Department of Virginia

ARTICLE II – POSTS

Sec. 216 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

Amend Sec. 216 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees., National Bylaws, under (a), by removing “Chaplain”.

B-6: Proposed by Department of Virginia

ARTICLE II – POSTS

Sec. 216 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

Amend Sec. 216 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees., National Bylaws, under (b), by adding “Chaplain” after “Adjutant”.

B-10: Recommended by National Bylaws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE VI – NATIONAL

Sec. 618 – Officers: Duties and Obligations.

Amend Sec. 618 – Officers: Duties and Obligations. National Bylaws, under (a) Commander-in-Chief: (6), by replacing the paragraph with the following:

“(6) Immediately upon entering office, appoint the Adjutant General who shall be a full-time salaried officer of the organization, subject to the approval of two-thirds of the members of the National Council of Administration.”

Under (7), replace the paragraph with the following:

“(7) Immediately upon entering office, appoint the Chief of Staff, Inspector General, and Sergeant-at-Arms and all other officers, Aides-de-Camp, committee chairmen and committees not otherwise provided for.”

Renumber the current language under (7) as (8) and renumber the subsections after (8) as (9) – (15).

M-7: Recommended by National Bylaws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

#### ARTICLE VI – NATIONAL

Sec. 620 – Vacancies and Removal of Elected Officers or Committee Members and Salaried Officers.

Amend Sec. 620 – Vacancies and Removal of Elected Officers or Committee Members and Salaried Officers., Manual of Procedure, under Vacancies:, in the second paragraph, by adding the following as the last sentence:

“The appointment will be null and void upon the election of a Quartermaster General as Described below.”

National Security and Foreign Affairs Resolutions.

#### 401 CIC OPPOSE TRICARE FEE CHANGES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we oppose all Tricare fee increases as well as any additional fee increases or attempts to erode the earned benefit of military healthcare. Moreover, DOD should reform its healthcare programs by eliminating institutional inefficiencies before considering participant fee increases.

#### 402 CIC KEEP DEFENSE BUDGET RELEVANT

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we strongly urge Congress to provide the necessary funding equal to not less than 5 percent of GDP for the

readiness, training, modernization, healthcare, and quality of life initiatives for the armed forces of today and tomorrow.

#### 403 CIC LINK MILITARY PAY INCREASES TO PRIVATE-SECTOR INCREASES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we call upon Congress to maintain military base pay comparability with private-sector wages by ensuring annual military pay raise percentages match or exceed annual ECI increases.

#### 404 CIC ELIMINATE SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARASSMENT IN THE MILITARY

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we strongly demand DOD become more aggressive in its efforts to reduce sexual assault and harassment, to provide victims with proper and necessary medical and mental health care, as well as assistance with disability claims as may be required, to aggressively and diligently investigate every reported incident and punish attackers, as well as individuals involved in acts of retribution and retaliation, and that Congress perform rigorous oversight of the recently passed military justice reforms to ensure proper implementation and identify possible areas for improvement.

#### 405 CIC ENSURE DOD COMPLIANCE WITH TAP MANDATE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the DOD to ensure service members complete TAP no later than 365 days before separation, are connected to community resources, and attend at least one career track, while ensuring nationally accredited Veterans' Service Organizations are afforded consistent access to transitioning service members; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we request Congress to require DOD and its partner agencies to continuously update their TAP information and procedures to maintain program relevancy, and to maximize veteran access to TAP resources after separating from the military.

#### 406 CIC PROVIDE FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF MILITARY RETIREMENT PAY AND VA DISABILITY COMPENSATION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we support legislation that allows for the concurrent receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability compensation without offset and regardless of rating percentage.

#### 407 CIC SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the Administration and Congress to strictly adhere to the concepts of the Taiwan Relations Act by continuing to approve the sale of state-of-the-art military equipment, weapons, and technology to maintain an adequate defense capability; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon the Administration and Congress to support the admission of the Republic of China on Taiwan into the United Nations, and to provide the President of Taiwan the same respect and privileges due other visiting Heads of State.

#### 408 CIC SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the U.S. Government to maintain a substantial military presence in the Republic of Korea, and to increase military aid and assistance through modern weaponry and technology to help promote peace and stability in the region.

#### 409 CIC SUPPORT THE STATE OF ISRAEL

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the United States Government to continue to support the State of Israel both diplomatically and militarily and continue to work with them to ensure and promote regional stability in the Middle East, and elsewhere.

#### 410 CIC PROTECT POW/MIA FULL ACCOUNTING MISSION FUNDING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we call upon Congress to continue to increase funding levels for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and all supporting organizations involved in the Fullest possible Accounting Mission; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress must pass advanced appropriations to prevent a slowdown in recoveries and allow for budget carry-over allowing DPAA to plan multi-year operations.

#### 411 CIC CALL FOR MORE UNILATERAL POW/MIA ACTIONS BY VIETNAM

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we encourage Vietnam to grant U.S. government analysts access to the PAVN archives where potentially valuable documents which could lead to case resolution may be located; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in this cooperative effort, that we encourage the Vietnamese government to turn over any items of a personal nature from missing American servicemen that are currently in the custody of Vietnamese museums or other locations under their control so they may be returned to their grieving families.

#### 412 CIC RECOGNITION FOR AFGHAN AND IRAQI COMBAT TRANSLATORS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the President of the United States and the U.S. Congress to recognize the contributions of Afghan and Iraqi Combat Interpreter Immigrants who stood shoulder to shoulder with, assisted and protected U.S. military service members, U.S. diplomats and government agents, non-governmental organizations, and media organizations during U.S. involvement in those countries.

#### 414 CIC WARTIME ALLIES BURIAL RIGHTS.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that wartime allies that have performed direct military support of U.S. military operations and are now U.S. citizens, we urge Congress to create a legislative pathway for allowing wartime allies who served honorably to receive U.S. military burial rights.

#### 415 VA SUPPORT UKRAINE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we support the people and free government of Ukraine in their fight against Russian aggression; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW urges the President and Congress to decidedly exercise our position as leader of the free world to decidedly support Ukrainian people and armed forces with necessary humanitarian and military aid and encourage all of our allies to follow suit.

#### 416 OR NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR HIGHWAY ON U.S. HIGHWAY 20

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, to support and encourage the United States Congress to designate the coast to coast U.S. Highway 20 as the “National Medal of Honor Highway Across America” and require appropriate highway signage including displaying the three versions of the Medal of Honor medal on all signs; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a National Medal of Honor Highway Across America will raise public awareness of the Medal of Honor award and the bravery of our nation’s war heroes – an objective of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society chartered by Congress; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, designating the Newport, Oregon to Boston, Massachusetts coast-to-coast U.S. Highway 20 as the National Medal of Honor Highway Across America by the United States Congress would honor all of our nation’s current and future Medal of Honor recipients and promote education of the traveling public on the “bravest of the brave” American war veterans.

## Veterans Service

### 601 CIC ADEQUATE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS RESOURCES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the Congress of the United States to authorize appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs which fully fund and maintain the integrity and enhancement of veteran entitlement programs and health care system.

### 602 CIC VA PHARMACEUTICAL CO-PAYMENTS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we oppose increases in Department of Veterans Affairs pharmaceutical co-payments; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress must exempt preventive medicines from VA pharmaceutical co-payment requirements.

### 603 CIC VA MEDICARE AND TRICARE REIMBURSEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we support enactment into law of legislation authorizing Department of Veterans Affairs to receive reimbursement for the cost of non-service connected care that is provided to veterans who are enrolled in Medicare or TRICARE.

### 604 CIC GERIATRIC AND EXTENDED CARE ELIGIBILITY

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to establish a standard Department of Veterans Affairs nursing home entitlement for all veterans enrolled in the VA health care system; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to provide sufficient funding to the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure the VA health care system provides home and community-based services for veterans as they require extended care.

### 605 CIC TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY HEALTH CARE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to provide sufficient funding to the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that appropriate screening, diagnostic services, treatment and life-long case management services are available to every veteran suffering from conditions associated with service-connected head trauma to include, but not limited to Traumatic Brain Injuries; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve research pertaining to

screening methods, diagnostic tools, and treatment of conditions associated with TBIs caused by blast injuries, blunt traumas, motor vehicle accidents, falls and other related injuries to ensure veterans who have experienced a TBI receive effective health care.

#### 606 CIC PTSD AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we strongly urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to continue to adequately staff VA mental health treatment and research programs; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to dedicate adequate resources to address the alarming rate at which Veterans die by suicide to include studying the full scope of VA benefit and care programs; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to assess what specific treatments or practices are the most effective in helping our veterans cope with their PTSD.

#### 607 CIC VA HEALTH CARE FOR WOMEN VETERANS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge VA to continue to staff, equip, monitor and enhance health care services available to women veterans at all VA medical facilities and expand its designated women's health program to mental health care to ensure access to mental health care providers who understand women-specific mental health conditions; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Secretary of Veteran Affairs to improve outreach to women veterans, allow women to choose the gender of their VA health care providers and properly train VA's workforce to treat women veterans with the respect and dignity they have earned and deserve.

#### 608 CIC EXPAND VA CAREGIVER BENEFITS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to provide the accurate resources to VA for the expansion of the Department of Veterans Affairs Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Program to veterans of all eras; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to fully align the VA's Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Program and the Department of Defense Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living program to include eligibility criteria for those who require caregiver services as a result of serious illnesses incurred in the line of duty; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge VA to ensure that veterans who previously qualified for benefits associated with the Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Program are not erroneously removed from the program and have clear recourse if they feel their benefits may be unjustly severed.

#### 609 CIC SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY CARE OPTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we oppose any out-of-pocket costs for care coordinated by VA for service-connected disabilities; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA comply with federal prompt payment requirements and incentivize private sector health care providers to participate in its community care programs, while ensuring veterans and eligible dependents are not held financially liable for services furnished through such programs; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA must remain the guarantor and coordinator of care for enrolled veterans and that the VFW remains opposed to privatizing VA or eroding VA's ability to provide direct care to veterans; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress must provide Department of Veterans Affairs with the oversight, appropriations and assets necessary to properly implement the VA MISSION Act as intended by Congress; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress and VA must furnish and conduct proper outreach to ensure veterans are fully aware of their health care options.

#### 611 CIC COVID-19 LESSONS LEARNED

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to provide the appropriate funding to ensure telehealth is an available option to access VA care by improving technology, accessibility, and security; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Veterans Health Administration to ensure that the Office of Human Resources have the necessary staff to properly implement policies and procedures to accelerate qualified employees' hiring processes to adequately maintain the number of health care personnel.

#### 612 CIC CONSIDER TREATMENT FOR A PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE CONNECTED CONDITION OR A SERVICE CONNECTED CONDITION THAT HAS INCREASED IN SEVERITY AS A CLAIM FOR VA COMPENSATION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to enact legislation requiring that treatment by the Department of Veterans Affairs VHA facility for a condition or disease recognized, as presumptively service connected or a service connected disability that has increased in severity will serve as the effective date for service connected compensation; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to enact legislation requiring VA to notify veterans, upon receiving treatment for a presumptive disability, or service connected disability that said disability is a claimable presumptive service connected or claim for increase in disability rating disability.

#### 613 CIC EXTENDING GULF WAR PRESUMPTIONS BEYOND 2026 AND TO AFGHANISTAN THEATER VETERANS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress and Department of Veterans Affairs to support research to verify whether service



members who served in Afghanistan are subjected to the same environmental hazards as those who served in Iraq, so that appropriate benefits, including eligibility for compensation based on undiagnosed illnesses, and medical care eligibility, will be provided retroactive to the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA must permanently extend presumptive disability compensation benefits for Gulf War veterans to ensure all service members who serve in Southwest Asia theater of military operations are afforded this protection.

#### 614 CIC EXTEND SERVICE CONNECTION PRESUMPTION TO BLAST SURVIVORS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to approve a presumption of service connection for conditions associated with blast exposure.

#### 615 CIC TINNITUS AND HEARING LOSS PRESUMPTIVE COMPENSABLE SERVICE CONNECTION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, we urge Congress and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to grant service connection on a presumptive basis for any veteran diagnosed after discharge with hearing loss or tinnitus when the evidence shows that the veteran participated in combat or worked in a position or occupational specialty likely to cause acoustic trauma; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to amend the Schedule for Rating Disabilities to provide a minimum compensable evaluation for any service connected hearing loss for which a hearing aid is medically indicated; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we oppose any changes to the Schedule for Rating Disabilities that seek to include tinnitus as a component of hearing loss, potentially denying veterans of service connected benefits.

#### 616 CIC VA CLAIMS WORKLOAD

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that Congress require Department of Veterans Affairs to accept private medical evidence and opinions in lieu of VA examinations whenever they are sufficient for rating purposes; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we continue to advise that Congress exercise its oversight authority and provide the vital resources necessary to sustain a sufficient workforce capable of effectively managing the workload and provide quality and timely service to those claiming benefits or appealing decisions from VA; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress bolsters its oversight and funding of VA technology initiatives to ensure that they are constructive, relevant and effective in streamlining claims processing and improving quality of entitlement decisions.

#### 617 CIC BURIAL PLOT ALLOWANCE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that Congress increase all burial benefits to what the Independent Budget recommends. The VFW urges Congress to provide the resources required to meet the burial needs of all veterans who have served their country so honorably and faithfully.

#### 618 CIC TOXIC EXPOSURES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to invest adequate resources to study, diagnose, and treat conditions and illnesses associated with toxic exposures; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress and the Department of Veterans Affairs to grant a presumption of service connection for all conditions and illnesses that are deemed by scientific evidence to be at least as likely as not associated with or caused by exposure to a toxic substance or environmental hazard and not solely on the basis of a definitive causal link or scientific certainty; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Department of Defense to disclose known and potential toxic exposures during all military operations; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress ensures that the Department of Defense expedites declassification efforts related to exposure events and that the Department of Veterans Affairs extends presumptive service connection to veterans suffering from conditions or illnesses found to be associated with exposure to toxic substances.

#### 619 CIC DIGITAL CLAIMS PROCESS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Department of Veterans Affairs to update regulations to authorize VSOs the same advocacy rights in the digital environment as were allowed in the paper-based claims process and honor proof of digital transmission to VA as the effective date; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs work with all VA-accredited entities to develop real-time, secure access to tools that allow advocates to provide comprehensive assistance to clients in real time; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA grant VSOs the authority to intervene on VA errors prior to the issuance of a rating decision, during which, VA shall not finalize decisions without the VSO electronically certifying that errors or discrepancies have been resolved.

#### 620 CIC SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS LIFE INSURANCE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress and Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that VA life insurance rates are competitive with private insurance company rates; and BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to pass legislation to index for inflation the maximum coverage rate of the Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance program.

#### 621 CIC VA AUTOMOTIVE ALLOWANCE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to remove the unreasonable restrictions of a once in a lifetime grant; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs authorize veterans, or their duly authorized representatives who are already in receipt of the automotive allowance, those with applications pending, and any future qualified applicant be allowed to reapply for this essential benefit at the end of the sales or lease contract or every five years, whichever is greater, so as to maintain a practical quality of life and benefit from current safety and technology standards.

#### 622 CIC DOMICILIARY PROGRAMS AND TEMPORARY TOTAL RATINGS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that Congress restore eligibility for temporary 100 percent ratings to include medical treatment provided by all domiciliary and day programs provided the program is treating a service connected disability.

#### 623 CIC IMPROVE EDUCATION BENEFITS FOR SURVIVORS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to increase Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance Program benefits to reflect the rising cost of education, with future increases indexed to reflect the average cost of attendance as reported by the Department of Education.

#### 624 CIC VETERAN HOUSING AND FOOD SECURITY PRIORITIES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the President and Congress to continue to address veterans' homelessness by increasing the availability of affordable housing, expanding educational and employment opportunities and training and providing gender-specific services; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA compensation and non-service connected pension should not be considered countable income by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and Department of Agriculture in determining program eligibility.

#### 625 CIC ENSURE VETERAN SUCCESS IN EDUCATION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to ensure proper oversight of Department of Veterans Affairs educational benefit programs by developing quality metrics with which to demonstrate student veteran success in higher education, and close financial loopholes through which certain academic programs can exploit GI Bill tuition models; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress ensure

veterans receive equitable access to benefits like housing payments and quality pre-enrollment educational information to ensure veterans are academically and financially prepared to succeed in higher education; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we work to extend full GI Bill benefits for all combat veterans and eliminate any delimitating dates for all VBA education benefits, preserving quality GI Bill benefits for all current conflict veterans and future conflict veterans to ensure they have access to quality education assistance programs.

#### 626 CIC VETERAN READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to change the eligibility delimiting date for Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran Readiness and Employment program by eliminating the 12-year-delimiting date for eligibility to Chapter 31 benefits and allow all veterans with employment impediments or problems with independent living to qualify for VR&E rehabilitation services for life; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VA must restructure performance measures to emphasize long-term employment versus the current short-term indicators of success. Furthermore, VR&E should continually follow up with veterans considered to be employable to ensure that the training and employment placement plans have been successful and if unsuccessful, to ensure the reasons and bases are clearly communicated to the veteran; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA streamlines eligibility and entitlement to VR&E programs to provide more timely intervention and assistance to all disabled veterans; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA must provide better information about VR&E during the Transition Assistance Program Class for separating service members.

#### 627 CIC SUPPORT VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we support viable and effective veterans employment and training programs, such as the Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses (VET TEC), the Jobs for Veterans State Grant program, and other Department of Labor Veterans Employment and Training Service programs; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to improve and enforce federal veteran-hiring mandates for contractors who do business with the federal government as outlined in Title 38 USC 4212; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that federal veteran hiring initiatives and programs must be held accountable for the effectiveness of the services provided and funding should be adjusted to reflect abilities in creating long-term meaningful careers for veterans, and state agencies that receive federal funding must be held to the same standards and report to Congress on the success of veteran hiring initiatives.

#### 628 CIC VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that Congress expand entrepreneurial education and networking programs for veterans via VR&E, veterans small business centers and other entrepreneurship programs funded through the Small Business Administration; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress expand veteran's and disabled veteran's access to capital by expanding direct loan programs through the Small Business Administration; but such programs should never come at the expense of other earned veterans' benefits; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress hold Department of Veterans Affairs accountable for its duty to properly verify veteran entrepreneurs to help achieve the federal government's three-percent veterans contracting goal.

#### 629 PAC CONVERT THE MANILA DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION OUTPATIENT CLINIC TO A FULL-FLEDGED VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, urge Congress to enact legislation to convert the VA Outpatient Clinic Manila, Philippines into a full-fledged VA Regional Medical Center with a sufficient budget and medical personnel to provide adequate medical service all US Veterans in the Pacific Areas equal to VA Medical Centers in the Continental United States.

#### 630 VA COMBATING ALS IN THE VETERAN COMMUNITY

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we call upon Congress to dedicate more resources towards research on causes, development of therapies, and expanded access to treatments for veterans stricken with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis to ensure that our military men and women are at no greater risk for ALS than other Americans.

#### 631 MT PROVIDE LIQUID BIOPSIES DURING ANNUAL PHYSICALS

BE IT RESOLVED, that we urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to add liquid biopsies for cancer screening to annual physicals for all veterans by January of 2023 with a preference on those with FDA approval.

#### 632 IL INCREASED RESOURCES FOR SERVICE MEMBERS WITH ALZHEIMERS AND DEMENTIA

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress and VA to fund studies into the cause of Alzheimer's, fund studies into early detection,

fund studies into the treatment and alternatives of treatment for patients with Alzheimer's and Dementia, and further study the direct correlation between military service and the increased risk to service members for Alzheimer's and Dementia

#### 633 IL VETERANS STATUS FOR GUARD AND RESERVE RETIREES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to mandate that the Department of Defense recognize military retired Guard and Reserve members with an Armed Forces discharge and further urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to recognize Retired Guard and Reserve members as Veterans.

#### 635 IL SUPPORT THE STATE VETERANS HOME PROGRAM.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we call on Congress and the VA to provide sufficient funding to support State Veterans Homes, including adequate per diem payments for skilled nursing care, domiciliary care and adult day health care, which properly support different levels of care within each program.