RESOLUTION 12-09

SUBJECT: Increase Veterans Burial Benefits

WHEREAS, there has been serious erosion in the value of the burial allowance over the years; and

WHEREAS, while these benefits were never intended to cover the full costs of burial, they now pay for only a small fraction of what they covered in 1973 when the federal government first started paying burial benefits: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that AMVETS support legislation to increase burial allowance benefits from $2,000 to $6,160 for service-connected veterans who live outside the 75 mile radius threshold, and increase burial allowance benefits from $2,000 to $2,793 for service-connected veterans who live inside the 75 mile radius threshold; and be it further

RESOLVED, that AMVETS supports legislation to increase burial allowance benefits from $300 to $1,918 for non-service-connected veterans who live outside the 75 mile radius threshold and increase burial allowance benefits from $300 to $854 for non-service-connected veterans who live within the 75 mile radius threshold; and be it further

RESOLVED, that AMVETS support legislation to increase the plot allowance from $300 to $1,150, and expand the eligibility for the plot allowance to all veterans who would be eligible for burial in a national cemetery, not just those who served during wartime.