RESOLUTION 12-18

SUBJECT: Veterans Mental Health Funding

WHEREAS, 30 percent of returning soldiers will have experienced and be diagnosed with a psychological trauma that may never heal and worsen without treatment; and

WHEREAS, VA, DoD and the federal government have an obligation to these veterans; and

WHEREAS, Psychological wounds can have disastrous effects not only on the veteran, but the family as well; and

WHEREAS, The psychological effects of war vary from person to person and sometimes don’t show up for years: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That AMVETS calls on Congress to substantially increase VA’s mental health care budget to adequately treat veterans suffering from psychological trauma;

RESOLVED, AMVETS urges DoD and VA to immediately develop easily accessible second person screenings for both pre and post deployment, in place of the current first person or self assessment; and be it further

RESOLVED, AMVETS recommends that DoD immediately develop and implement stronger patient confidentiality practices, so that those in true need of assistance shall not be deterred by fear of peer and/or superior’s criticisms, judgments’ or fear of being passed over for promotion; and be it further

RESOLVED, That AMVETS calls on Congress to substantially increase VA’s mental health care budget to adequately treat veterans suffering from psychological trauma.