RESOLUTION 13-15

SUBJECT: Women Veterans’ Healthcare

WHEREAS, More than 1.8 million women are veterans of military service with women today making up more than 15 percent of our active forces and 18 percent of our reserve component forces. Women veterans service members have been shown to have unique and complex health needs with a higher rate of co-morbid physical and mental health conditions (31 percent of women have such co-morbidities versus 24 percent of men); and

WHEREAS, The availability and quality of health care for women veterans varies widely across the VA healthcare system causing an inequity in both quality and services. Less than 30 percent of VA facilities can provide women veterans onsite gender specific healthcare; and

WHEREAS, Most male veterans can receive the full spectrum of primary and preventative care services in one visit, most female veterans must schedule multiple visits to receive the same gender-specific care: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That AMVETS urges DoD and VA to enhance their programs to ensure that women veterans receive high-quality, comprehensive primary and mental healthcare services in a safe and sensitive environment at every VA health-care facility; and be it further

RESOLVED, That AMVETS urges DoD and VA to redesign and implement an appropriate health-care delivery model for women veterans and establish an integrated system of healthcare delivery that provides a comprehensive continuum of care; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the DoD and VA need to ensure that every woman servicemember and/or veteran gains and keeps access to a qualified primary care physician who can provide gender-specific care for all basic physical and mental healthcare conditions prevalent in women; and be it further

RESOLVED, AMVETS urges the immediate implementation of the aforesaid in order to provide equal care for our entire nation’s returning female war fighters.