Resolution 14-16

SUBJECT: Support the Sexual Assault Training Oversight & Prevention (STOP Act)

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT

WHEREAS, the crime of Military Sexual Trauma (MST) is a personal trauma, not a clinical diagnosis and this problem has not received adequate oversight and response from military leaders; and

WHEREAS, the continued and growing prevalence of MST is alarming and has been the subject of numerous recent military reports, Congressional hearings, documentaries and media stories, the current programs and the leaders of those programs, which are meant to reduce or eliminate MST are ineffective and often part of the problem; and

WHEREAS, victims of MST present a wide range of treatment needs, including PTSD, depression, anxiety, etc. they are not getting the support or treatment they deserve and require; and

WHEREAS, the military branches seem incapable of getting control of this problem, it is well past time to improve oversight, enforcement and prosecution of the crime of MST; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the AMVETS National Legislative Department advocate for and do everything possible to support passage of HR 1593, the Sexual Assault Training Oversight & Prevention Act which will establish an independent council to appoint personnel to the Sexual Assault Oversight and Response Office whose task will be to investigate, prevent and reduce MST incidents within the Armed Forces.

Amended.