DRAFT RESOLUTION 15-25
SUBJECT: PROTECTING SERVICE DISABLED VETERAN OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES IN FEDERAL PROCUREMENT
SOURCE: AZ, MO, FL, WA, TN, TX, VA, IL, DC, NJ, MA, MD, OH, IN, WI, CT, PA, CA, ND, MN,

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense estimates an average of 250,000 service members transition out of their respective branch and return to civilian life annually; and

WHEREAS, as America’s war-fighters transition back into civilian life, many are choosing to pursue careers as entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, given the almost 30 percent influx of newly established Veteran Owned Small Businesses and Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has long utilized billions of dollars of buying power through contracting to maximize the procurement opportunities for small businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Benefit Act of 2003 established the program, permitting contracting officers to award set-aside and sole-source contracts to any small business concern owned and controlled by one or more service-disabled veterans; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13360 assists SDVOSBs by requiring procurement officials and prime contractors incorporate opportunities for employment to SDVOSB as smaller or subcontractors working with the larger prime contractors; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, AMVETS calls upon Congress and the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure SDVOSB and VOSB’s success in the federal procurement system becomes a top priority, be it through oversight or elimination of unsuccessful practices and programs; and be it further

RESOLVED, AMVETS calls for the implementation of regular, unannounced contract compliancy audits.