RESOLUTION 16 – 11

CONCURRENT RECEIPT

WHEREAS, the fiscal year 2004 National Defense Authorization Act allowed for the gradual phase-in of full concurrent receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability compensation for service-connected wounds, illnesses or injuries; and

WHEREAS, the 10-year phase-in period ended in 2014, which means military retirees with 20 or more years of service and a 50% or higher VA disability rating no longer have their military retirement pay offset by the amount of their VA disability compensation; and

WHEREAS, the law did not provide the same equity to service-connected disabled military retirees with VA ratings of 40% or below, or Chapter 61 retirees who were medically retired with less than 20 years, regardless of VA disability rating; and

WHEREAS, a disabled veteran who does not retire from military service but elects instead to pursue a civilian career after enlistment expires can receive full compensation and full civilian retired pay. AMVETS believes that a veteran who has served this country for 20 years should have that same right and not be penalized for choosing a military career rather than a civilian career; and

WHEREAS, no other category of federal employee faces the same restriction on disability and retirement pay; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that AMVETS supports legislation that would provide for the full and immediate concurrent receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability compensation, without offset, regardless of their VA rating percentage.

SOURCE: Departments of AZ,ND,NJ,MO,VA,FL,IL,KY,AK,NM,MI,CA,MA,WA,IA,OH.TN