DRAFT RESOLUTION 17 – 16

SUBJECT: Improvements in the Family Caregiver Support Program

SOURCE: DC, FL, LA, NC, VA, OH, MA, TX, TN, MO, NJ, ND, WA

WHEREAS, family caregivers selflessly support wounded, injured and sick veterans allowing for a greatly improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of family caregivers also plays a critical role in controlling and reducing health care costs by minimizing:

- both in- & out-patient hospitalizations; and
- institutionalization

WHEREAS, since 9/11, family caregivers have been the primary source of support for severely injured or sick veterans; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that improving family caregivers’ well-being and minimizing the burden they carry, is critical to their being able to continue assisting their loved ones; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that AMVETS encourage Congress to pass legislation to correct the inequity in access to the VA program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers and allow primary caregivers to earn income credits to safeguard their own income security; and be it further

RESOLVED, that AMVETS should ensure that Congress continues the strictest oversight of VA in-home and community based services for supporting family caregivers, while simultaneously providing sufficient funding for the caregiver program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:
CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS..................ADOPT □ AMEND □ REJECT □ NONE □
FLOOR ACTION: ADOPTED □ ADOPTED (as amended) □ REJECTED □ TABLED □