**DRAFT RESOLUTION 17 - 19**

**SUBJECT:** Veteran Status for Guard & Reserve Retirees

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

**WHEREAS,** a National Guard or Reserve Component member, who has completed a 20(+) year career, is designated as a ‘military retiree’ rather than a veteran upon retirement if they have never served on active duty (Title 10) orders for other than training purposes. Drill training, annual training, active duty for training and Title 32, including border patrol duty are currently not qualifying service to earn veteran status; and,

**WHEREAS,** these individuals, currently designated as ‘military retirees’, are already entitled to military retired pay, TRICARE health coverage, G.I. Bill, home loan and many other veterans' benefits and therefore deserve to be recognized as veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and,

**WHEREAS,** there are no costs associated with veteran status legislation, nor does it seek to bestow any additional or unearned benefits, would authorize 'veteran status' for National Guard and Reserve members that are entitled to a reserve retirement at age 60, but were never called to active federal service (Title 10) during their careers.; and

**WHEREAS,** the passage of veteran status legislation would legally authorize National Guard and Reserve members entitled to Reserve retirement pay, the honor of being recognized as a veteran; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that AMVETS does everything in its power to encourage passage of veteran status legislation.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:***

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS ..................ADOPT □ AMEND □ REJECT □ NONE □

FLOOR ACTION: ADOPTED □ ADOPTED (as amended) □ REJECTED □ TABLED □