

**PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS (2)**

**AMVETS Department** \_\_\_\_\_

**Endorsed** \_\_\_      **Opposed** \_\_\_      **No Opinion** \_\_\_

**National Resolution 22-01**

**Source: AMVETS Department of Connecticut**

**Title: National Committee Members**

**Whereas**, the success of AMVETS depends on clear and accurate communication between National AMVETS, the six National Districts, AMVETS Departments, and AMVETS Posts;

**And whereas**, clear and accurate communications require that all parties involved receive and distribute updated information as soon as it becomes available;

**And whereas**, it would not be practical to have all Department and Posts represented on every committee.

**Be it resolved**, that all National Committees have a representative from each AMVETS National District appointed to each National Committee to receive updated information and relay this information to the Departments in their Districts, which in turn can be distributed to Post members.

**And be it further resolved**, that all National Commanders, when making appointments, ensure that each National District has at least one representative from each National District.

**Endorsed** \_\_\_      **Opposed** \_\_\_      **No Opinion** \_\_\_

**National Resolution 22-02**

**Source: AMVETS National Headquarters**

**Title: Support Statehood for Puerto Rico**

**Whereas**, the people of the US Territory of Puerto Rico have voted to join the Union by becoming the 51<sup>st</sup> State, and

**Whereas**, the US Constitution provides for Statehood through its territories in Article 4, Sect. 3 by vote of the consent of Congress, and

**Whereas**, the people of Puerto Rico have fought for the American way of life against the enemies of America since WWI, and

**Whereas**, AMVETS has strengthened its legislative capabilities by creating the position of 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander for its National Headquarters and its related subordinate membership organizations, and

**Whereas**, AMVETS Membership Department seeks to open the first AMVETS Post in Puerto Rico, then

**Be It Resolved, That**, AMVETS National Headquarters support Statehood for Puerto Rico in its activities with the U.S. Congress.

### **PROPOSED CBL AMENDMENTS (3)**

**Endorsed** \_\_\_      **Opposed** \_\_\_      **No Opinion** \_\_\_

**Amendment 22-01**

**Authors: AMVETS National Legislative Committee**

**Title: To update and clarify the duties of the National Third Vice Commander**

**WHEREAS**, at the 2016 AMVETS National Convention the convention body voted to create the position of National Third Vice Commander;

**WHEREAS**, at the 2018 AMVETS National Convention the convention body the voted to amend the job description for the National Third Vice Commander found in National bylaws Article III, Section 2, § (c) to:

**WHEREAS**, Legislative action by AMVETS is often the first and sometimes only exposure that the general public gets to AMVETS. Clear and concise instruction must be afforded to the National Third Vice Commander as to their duties and responsibilities; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that National bylaws Article III, Section 2, § (c) to be replaced with the following:

(c) National Third Vice Commander.

The National Third Vice Commander shall:

(1) Chair the National Legislative Committee

(2) Oversee all National Legislative efforts of AMVETS with the assistance of a National Legislative Associate or National Legislative Director and frequent and timely consultation with the National Legislative Committee.

a. Whether in support of or in opposition to a legislative issue any effort must be kept within the scope of a passed resolution and must adhere to the specific written text of that resolution.

b. If events dictate that legislative efforts should be made outside the scope of a passed resolution, then, after consultation with the National Legislative Committee, any positions taken, or efforts made shall be reported to the NEC for approval at the next NEC Meeting.

(3) Provide timely and frequent information updates on any National Legislative efforts and

any new/or pending federal Veteran legislation, administration Veteran policy, or Department of Veteran Affairs policy positions.

a. A report of activities shall be made at all NEC meetings and National Convention.

b. An update will be made to the public via electronic media

(4) Coordinate legislative participation incentives and events with the National Legislative

Committee and National Headquarters.

(5) Develop a positive working relationship with all National District, Department/State, and

Post persons responsible for legislative advocacy within their respective areas.

(6) Provide support to all National District, Department/State, and Post persons responsible

for legislative advocacy within their respective areas.

(7) Perform such other duties in connection with AMVETS legislative activities as the National

Commander shall direct.

**Endorsed** \_\_\_     **Opposed** \_\_\_     **No Opinion** \_\_\_

**Amendment 22-02**

**Authors: AMVETS National Legislative Committee**

**Title: To set out the duties of the National Legislative Committee**

**WHEREAS**, at the 2017 AMVETS National Convention the convention body voted to institute a permanent National Legislative Committee;

**WHEREAS**, In the preceding years the necessity and purpose of the National Legislative Committee has become more apparent in the turbulent and fast changing national political landscape;

**WHEREAS**, AMVETS has developed the ability to quickly and effectively react to fast moving legislation, and as such, has become a vocal leader in the veteran community on a range of issues;

**WHEREAS**, Legislative action by AMVETS is often the first and sometime only exposure that the general public gets to AMVETS. Clear and concise instruction must be afforded to this committee as to its duties and responsibilities;

**WHEREAS**, with the necessity to meet in a timely and sometime immediate manner in the periods between the meetings of the National Executive Committee

(NEC), to effectively and decisively act on fast moving legislation; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that under National bylaws, Article II, Section 1, § (v) Legislative Committee add the following:

(1) The National Commander shall appoint six members to the Legislative Committee. The National Third Vice Commander will chair this committee. The Committee shall have a Vice Chairman and Secretary selected from its six members. The National Commander, National Judge Advocate, and one representative from each the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, the Sons of AMVETS, and AMVETS Riders that will be ex-officio members with voice but no vote.

(2) The National Legislative Associate or National Legislative Director shall serve as the staff advisor to the committee.

(3) The Legislative Committee shall meet at any time needed over the period between NEC meetings to discuss timely and immediate actions to be taken on legislation. These meetings shall occur via Zoom.

a. Any actions taken by this committee within the scope of any passed resolution must adhere to the specific written text of that resolution.

b. Any actions taken by this committee outside the scope of any passed resolution must be approved by the NEC at the next regular NEC meeting. This action must pass by a simple majority vote of the NEC persons present or action shall be vacated.

c. A report of any meetings held by this committee shall be made at the next NEC meeting or appropriate business session of National Convention following that meeting.

(4) This Committee shall review all draft resolutions and make recommendations to approve or reject the draft resolutions to the National Convention Delegates at the appropriate business session of the National Convention.

(5) This committee chairman will present all draft resolutions at the National Convention.

Endorsed \_\_\_      Opposed \_\_\_      No Opinion \_\_\_

**Amendment 22-03**

**Authors: AMVETS National Finance Committee**

**Title: Life Membership Dues Restructure**

**Whereas** AMVETS life membership dues have been set at \$250 since January 2012,

and,

**Whereas** this is among the lowest price for life membership dues of any Veterans Service Organization, and,

**Whereas** this does not accurately reflect the value of AMVETS life membership, now, therefore,

**Be it resolved** that AMVETS National Bylaws, Article VII, Section 6, a, (1), be replaced with the following:

“Life membership dues, effective September 1, 2023, shall be not less than \$500 for those members age up to and including 55, ages 56 through and including 65 will be \$400 and those 66 and over \$300, nonrefundable, and payable to the post, of which 50 percent shall be forwarded to National Headquarters and 25 percent to the state department.