VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

INFORMATION BULLETIN JULY 2023



Department of Arizona 6423 S Ash Ave Tempe, Arizona 85283

Phone: (480) 941-5258 - Fax: (480) 994-3730 Email: vfwazadj@gmail.com

Bill "Jumper" Schaeffler, Commander

2023 - 2024

KICK OFF OUR GOAL TOWARDS OUR 102% IN MEMBERSHIP WHO WILL BE THE FIRST POST?



MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

The VFW Membership Department is issuing a new challenge to all our Posts to start the 2023-2024 Membership Year!

We've just come off of an exceptional year of membership, and we want to continue that momentum into the current year. Even though the year's just begun, we want to see all of our Posts out there recruiting and retaining those members whose dues are coming up for renewal. There's no better time than now to get a strong start!

For this month's challenge, we're going to look at how many members a Post can bring in during the month of July. New members, renewing members, and reinstated members, as well as dues-paying transfers will all count towards this contest goal.

The Post in each membership division that shows the highest increase in their membership total will win a \$500 gift certificate to the VFW Store!



This contest will specifically count Annual members; since Life Members will not show up in your Post's totals until September, they will not factor into this month's contest.

We have a perfect opportunity to start the membership year strong and to continue that momentum through the rest of the year. Right now is the perfect time to get off to a good start with recruiting events, calling campaigns to former members, and reminding members whose dues might be expiring to continue their membership with the Post.

We've just come off one of the best membership years in decades, and we aim to do even better this year! With your dedication and hard work, we're going to make it happen and prove to the world that

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS!

This contest will measure a Post's increase in membership from July 1st through July 31st, 2023. Dues payments and applications processed online before close of business will be credited that day, payments and applications made through the mail will be processed when received. Questions about this or other membership programs can be sent to membership@vfw.org.

There's another way to support the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.

ON ATE

YOUR CARI

Donate your car, truck or boat to the VFW and your generous donation may even qualify for a tax deduction.

Get started on your vehicle donation!

844.839.4438 | vfw.careasy.org

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

WE MAKE DONATING YOUR VEHICLE EASY!



Call us at 844.839.4438 or visit us online.



Schedule your convenient and free pick-up.



Receive a tax receipt for your generous donation.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is dedicated to providing vital programs and services to America's service members, veterans, and their families. Donate your vehicle to help us continue our efforts to support our nation's heroes.

Support the VFW today

844.VFW.GIFT | vfw.careasy.org





LIST OF MONTHLY REPORTS REQUIRED

ALL REPORTS ARE DUE BY THE 10th OF THE MONTH

DISTRICT REPORTS

District Commander's Report (Send to Adjutant email)

POST REPORTS

Posts Chairperson's Reports (Send to Each Chairperson)
Chaplain's Report, Form is on Department's Website
Hospital Report, Form is on Department's Website
Service Officer's Report, Form is on Department's Website
Veterans & Military Support, Form is on Department's Website

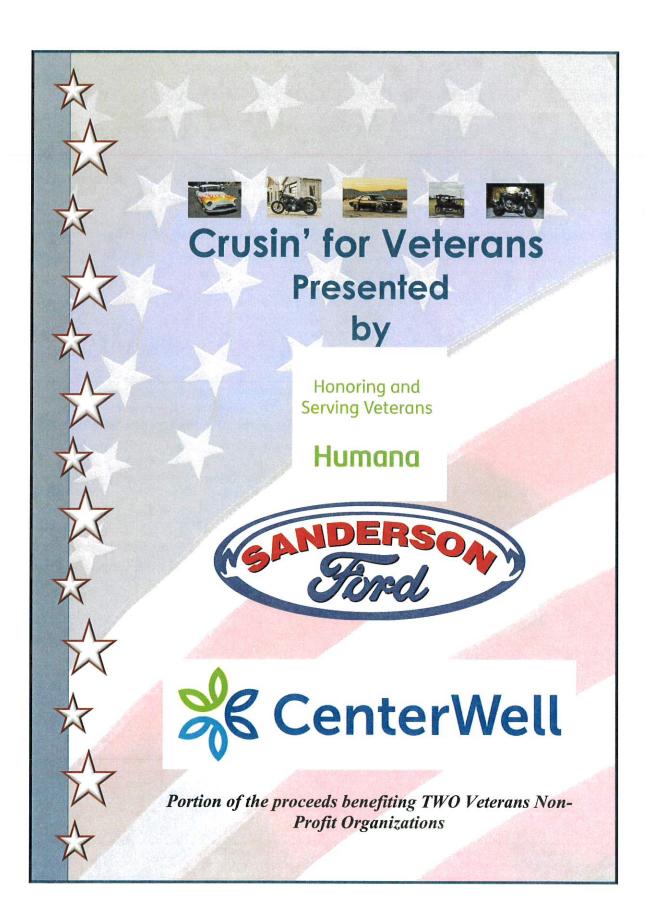
Dashboard Entries

Community Service Report, Submit at National's Website Make Entries Daily for Quarterly Requirements

Department's Website is www.vfwaz.com

National's Website is www.vfw.org

Any Questions Give Me a Call: Gene Wood, Department Adjutant, 480-941-5258





Saturday, October 7th, 2023 10:00 am – 2:00 pm American Legion Post 29 6822 N 57th Dr. Glendale, AZ 85301

FREE for all attendees

Military Branch and Veteran Organizations Chili Cook-off's with Cash Prizes, Veteran Owned Resources and Shopping Businesses, Food Trucks, Kids Area, Car Show and more!

*All Make and Models

Car Show Entry: \$20 Pre-Reg Single by 9/23; \$25 by 10/1 \$35 Pre-Reg Double Space by 9/23; \$40 until 10/1

Motorcycle Entry: \$15 Pre-Reg by 09/23; \$20 until 10/1

1st, 2nd, 3rd place trophies *Special Guest Judges*

*All Entries receive a Swag Bag with Dash Plaque and Event T-Shirt
first 50 Entries*

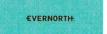
To register your car or motorcycle please go to:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/arizona-veteranscommunity-fair-tickets-418922758247









Optum



CASH INCENTIVES

Post Attendance

(1st place: \$500, 2nd: \$250, 3rd: \$100)

Qualifications:

25%: 1 entry

50%: 2 entries

75%: 3 entries

100% 5 entries

Additional ways to get entries

*Per Car/Motorcycle entered into shows

*Per Post Chili-Cookoff entered

*Long Distance Travel

Car Show - Trophies

(1st place: \$350, 2nd: \$250, 3rd: \$100)

Motorcycle Show-Trophies

(1st place: \$350, 2nd: \$250, 3rd: \$100)

Chili-Cookoff (Guest Judges)-Trophies

(1st place: \$200, 2nd: \$125, 3rd: \$75)

TOR SALE \$\$\$

1998 FOUR WINDS HORIZON RS

18 FEET LOA 8 FOOT BEAM

8 PASSENGER CAPACITY

4.3L, V6 190 HP ENGINE

32 GALLON FUEL TANK

INCLUDES MANY EXTRAS

INQUIRE WITHIN THE VFW OR CALL 480-941-5258



2023-2024 VFW ARIZONA EVENTS

FALL CONFERENCE

Hilton DoubleTree Phoenix-Tempe

Oct 30 Conference & Banquet

Oct 31 Council of Administration

Rooms: S119 + tax

<u>Deadline: September 8, 2023</u>

Banquet: \$50 before Aug 20, increases after

WINTER CONFERENCE - VOD & PP AWARDS

Hilton Phoenix Airport

Jan 4 Conference & Banquet

Jan 5 Council of Administration

Rooms: S159 + tax

Deadline: December 13, 2023

Banquet: \$53 before Nov 20, increases after

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Loews Ventana Canyon Tucson

Convention: May 30-Jun 1

Council of Administration: Jun 2

Rooms: S104 + tax

Deadline: May 7, 2024

Installation Banquet: S55 until April 30, increases after

Quartermaster's Corner

Please send all email for Department Quartermaster to azvfw3@gmail.com

National Convention Registration

Each post <u>MUST</u> register at least one Delegate. No exceptions.

First Delegate is \$25, additional delegates, alternates and attendees are \$10. Save some time and get this done online at vfw.org

Buddy Poppies

Cost for 500 of the traditional Buddy Poppy for has increased to \$125 plus shipping

Arizona does not receive any commission on this price.

National has not yet released cost of the new metal poppy.

Fall and Winter Conference

Visit vfwaz.com for more info
Resources >> Conference/Convention Information



DEPT OF ARIZONA VFW & AUXILIARY FALL CONFERENCE AND C OF A

Reception and Banquet DoubleTree Phoenix Tempe

Reception & Banquet Saturday, September 30, 2023

Choice of Chicken or Beef Entrée Includes Salad, Potato, Vegetable Dessert Iced Tea \$50 until August 20 \$55 Aug 21-Sep 20

AFTER SEP 20 WAIT LIST ONLY

Deadline for \$50 Price is Sun, August 20, 2023

Pay by Check

Complete this form and return **entire page** with payment to:

VFW Dept of Arizona Quartermaster 6423 S Ash Ave Tempe, AZ 85283

How many?	Chicken		Beef	
Special Diet?				
Who is paying	g?			
Who is pickin	g up?			
Check #			.	
Post/Auxiliary	7 # ¾	AND AND	The same of the sa	

Order and Pay Online

Visit Convention Page on Department website or scan QR code below





Awards
Voice of Democracy
Patriot's Pen

Hilton Phoenix Airport
Jan 6 Conference & Banquet
Jan 7 Council of Administration

Rooms: \$159 + tax

Room Reservation Deadline: December 13, 2023 Banquet: \$53 before Nov 20, increases after









2024 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION



Loews Ventana Canyon Tucson May 29 - June 2



Standard Room \$104 per night Reservations Close on May 7

PROPERTY FEATURES

- Group Rate available May 25-June 3
- Nightly Resort Fee is waived. (may appear on booking confirmation)
- Ten Percent (10%) off onsite food and beverage outlets via coupon supplied at check in (excludes alcohol)
- Fifteen Percent (15%) off spa treatments (does not include promotions, packages and retail)
- Special Green Fees





Scan QR code, or visit vfwaz.com for more information, booking link and banquet order form

35" ANNIVERSARY







BRING A NEW UNWRAPPED TOY! MARINE CORPS RESERVE Stor (30) Stor





lierra Intígua





OPEN TO THE PUBLIC . FREE CONCERT



















OCTOBER 28, 2023

ILLITO DOWNS HORSE TRACK

(4502 N 1st Avenue • Tucson AZ 85718)

10 AM TO 8:30 PM

FOOD TRUCKS

MILITARY DISPLAYS • VETERAN RESOURCES COSTUME CONTEST • TRICK OR TREATING

























WA106.org • NamJamTucson.org • vva106@live.com







Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Tucson Chapter 106

PO Box 40903 • Tucson, Arizona 85717-0903 www.NamJamTucson.org • www.VVA106.org • vva106@live.com

2023 VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Dear NAMJAM® Volunteers,

We want to invite and welcome you to our 35th Annual NAMJAM® Concert and Celebration. This years' event is being held on October 28, 2023 from 10 am to 6 pm at Rillito Downs Horse Track located at First Avenue & River. The set-up of all equipment, displays and products can commence Friday, October 27. It is important that all set-up's be completed by 9 am October 28.

Volunteers are needed on October 27 for setup and on October 28 for day of the event. 2 hour shifts, duties include but are not limited to: assisting vendors unloading and loading; stocking beverage booths with ice and product; trash detail; greeters and Chapter booth operations.

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Jim Barnhart at 404-2040 or Terry Byron at 982-0023.

See you at NAM to SAND JAM 2023 and thank you for your support in making this a great event in the city of Tucson!

The Vietnam Veterans of America is a non-profit organization, Chapter 106 FID # 52-1389485, Group Exemption # 3202 for tax-deductible contributions.

Jim Barnhart NAMJAM® Director 520-404-2040 Terry Byron NAMJAM® Volunteer 520-982-0023



DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA VFW AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

COLF TOURNAMENT

Software, October 7, 2023

Check-in starts @ 7:30AM ~ Shotgun Start 9:00AM
4 Man = 18 Hole Scramble

Birdie Ranch Golf Club

2051 Silver Lake Blvd, Show Low, AZ

Entry Fee \$125 / person (Includes Green Fee, Carts, Lunch, and Swag Bag)

Hole Sponsorship \$100 Tee Box Sign with personal message or company logo



Register on line by scanning the QR code or fill out the attached form and mail to the below address

All entries must be completed by October







babyscooby76@gmail.com 18451 W. AVRA VALLEY RD, Mail MARANA, AZ 85653

Raffle Prize "Donation" Always Accepted





VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

STURGIS VIP
TRIP GIVEAWAY

TRIP INCLUDES:

- \$1,000 TRAVEL MONEY
- LODGING AT THE FULL THROTTLE SALOON'S PAPPY HOEL CAMPGROUND
- VIP ACCESS TO CONCERTS & ENTERTAINMENT

SCAN QR CODE WITH PHONE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN



HELP OUR VETERANS BY MAKING A SMALL AND IMPACTFUL DONATION OF \$10 BY TEXTING THE WORD "NEEDS" TO 20222

The 83rd annual Sturgis Rally is right around the corner; so close you can start to hear the thunder rolling. The VFW and Jesse James Bourbon are Rolling Sturgis and giving away the ultimate trip!

Every VFW Post for which we have a physical address (not a PO Box) is geofenced so once you've scanned the QR code with your phone (or registered via the link above) you can CHECK-IN every day at the post to earn additional entries and increase your chance of winning. If the CHECK-IN button is not functioning in your post (showing up on user's phone) please contact us at fin@mightyloud.com

The VFW Post with the most entries will win \$2000.

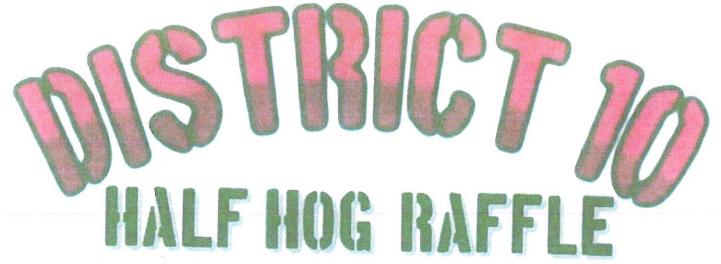
The winner of the drawing will win:

- \$1000.00 in travel money
- Lodging on the Full Throttle's Pappy Hoel Campground
- VIP access to concerts and entertainment

To participate simply scan the QR Code in the attached graphic posted at your VFW Post with your cellular phone.

Print out the attached flyer and post it visibly at your post for your members to participate. Also, use social media to draw members of your post and people in your community to come in and register daily. Everyone is eligible to participate.

Ed Stefanak Jr. Eligibility Coordinator Veterans of Foreign Wars



\$375 worth of pork - 75 lbs total weight

6 lbs Bacon - 8 Pork Steaks - 1 Loin Roast 24 Chops - 1 Pork Butt - 1 Rack Spare Ribs 1 Smoked Bone-in Ham - 2 Country Ribs 18 lbs Mix and Match Sausage



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NOTE:

- 1. Block Empty = No Report
- 2. Block has 0 = Wrong Form/No Info/or No Activity BUT Report is Accepted
- 3. Block has X = Report is Accepted
- 4. Block has L = Report is after the 10th Not Accepted



2022-2023

124th NATIONAL CONVENTION VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

PHOENIX, ARIZONA JULY 22 – 27, 2023

PROPOSED BYLAW AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE AMENDMENTS

SCHEDULE OF RESOLUTIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR COMMITTEES



July 7, 2023

Dear Comrades:

Written notice is promulgated herein, together with copies of proposed amendments to the Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to be considered by the 124th National Convention in accordance with provisions of Section 1401 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

Sincerely,

Dan West

Adjutant General

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

TO COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL BYLAWS, MANUAL OF PROCEDURE AND RITUAL This committee meets at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 23

Chairman:

Vincent B.J. Lawrence, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 7686, NM

Vice Chairman: Paul A. Spera, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 144, MA

This committee considers all proposed amendments to the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure, as well as resolutions having any bearing upon the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure. It makes recommendations to the Convention for approval or disapproval of proposed amendments that may be adopted only in accordance with sections 1401, Bylaws and Manual of Procedure. It also considers resolutions or other proposals pertaining to changes in the VFW Ritual and makes recommendations thereon.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL BYLAWS

B-1

Proposed by Department of Pacific Areas ARTICLE I – MEMBERS Sec. 101 - Eligibility.

Amend Sec. 101 - Eligibility., National Bylaws, by replacing the language in (3) with the following:

"in Taiwan or in its territorial waters for not less than 30 consecutive days, for a total of 60 days, from 1951 to 1979; or"

Renumber the current language in (3) as (4).

B-2

Proposed by Department of Vermont **ARTICLE I – MEMBERS** Sec. 101 - Eligibility.

Amend Sec. 101 – Eligibility., National Bylaws, by adding the following as (4):

"(4) Foreign Duty Service on Foreign Soil, its Airspace, and Territorial Waters for not less than 30 consecutive days, or a total of 60 non-consecutive days of duty after September 11, 2001."

B-3

Recommended by National Bylaws Study Group Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE I – MEMBERS

Sec. 102 - Applications-Affiliation of New Members.

Amend Sec. 102 – Applications-Affiliation of New Members., National Bylaws, by replacing "Members-At-Large." with the following:

"A. National Member-at-Large.

- 1. An individual who is eligible for membership who chooses not to join a Post and Department, may become a "National Member-at-Large", for up to two (2) years.
- 2. To become a National Member-at-Large, the individual must submit the following to the Adjutant General's office:
 - (a) Completed membership application; and
 - (b) Proof of eligibility; and
 - (c) Payment of annual membership dues.
- 3. Annual dues required for National Membership-at-Large shall be forty-five dollars \$45.00, unless a different amount is established by the National Council of Administration.
- 4. Annual dues received by the Quartermaster General under this section shall be distributed as follows:
 - (a) National shall retain fifty percent (50%) of the annual membership dues received; and
 - (b) The Quartermaster General shall deliver the remaining fifty percent (50%) to the appropriate Department Adjutant, as directed by the National Membership Department.
- 5. Upon the two (2)-year anniversary of becoming a National Member-at-Large; or, upon upgrading to Life Membership; the Adjutant General shall transfer the Member to the Department in which their home address of record is located.

B. Department Member-at-Large

- 1. An individual who is eligible for membership and chooses not to join a Post but wishes to join a Department (as permitted by these Bylaws), may become a "Department Member-at-Large" on an annual basis.
- 2. To become a Department Member-at-Large, the individual must submit the following to the State Adjutant for the identified Department:
 - (a) Completed membership application; and
 - (b) Proof of eligibility; and
 - (c) Payment of annual membership dues.
- 3. Annual dues required for Department Membership-at-Large shall be forty-five dollars \$45.00, \$26.00 of which shall be National Organization dues which shall be transmitted to the Quartermaster General monthly on a consolidated report and \$19.00 of which shall be Department dues, provided the Department Council of Administration may establish some other amount as Department dues."

B-4

Proposed by Department of Pacific Areas

ARTICLE IV – DISTRICTS

Sec. 416 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

Amend Sec. 416 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees., National Bylaws, under (a), by removing "Chaplain".

B-5

Proposed by Department of Pacific Areas

ARTICLE IV – DISTRICTS

Sec. 416 - Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

Amend Sec. 416 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees., National Bylaws, under (b), by adding "Chaplain" after "Adjutant".

B-6

Proposed by Department of Illinois

ARTICLE IV - DISTRICTS

Sec. 421 - Voting.

Amend Sec. 421 – Voting., National Bylaws, in the first sentence of the first paragraph, by removing "except delegates elected by the Posts,". At the beginning of the second sentence of the first paragraph, add "When a roll call vote is required,".

B-7

Proposed by Department of Illinois

ARTICLE V – DEPARTMENTS

Sec. 521 - Voting.

Amend Sec. 521 – Voting., National Bylaws, in the first sentence, by removing "except delegates elected by the Posts,". At the beginning of the second sentence, add "When a roll call vote is required,".

B-8

Proposed by Department of Illinois ARTICLE VI - NATIONAL Sec. 621 - Voting.

Amend Sec. 621 – Voting., National Bylaws, in the first sentence, by removing "except delegates elected by the Posts,". At the beginning of the second sentence, add "When a roll call vote is required,".

<u>B-9</u>

Proposed by Department of Missouri ARTICLE XI - AUXILIARY Sec. 1102 - Eligibility.

Amend Sec. 1102 – Eligibility., National Bylaws, in the first paragraph, by adding the following as a second sentence:

"Veterans who served honorably who are not otherwise eligible for Veterans of Foreign Wars membership shall be permitted to join the Auxiliary."

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

<u>M-1</u>

Recommended by National Bylaws Study Group Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief ARTICLE I – MEMBERS
Sec. 101 – Eligibility.

Amend Sec. 101 – Eligibility., Manual of Procedure, under the ELIGIBILITY GUIDE, by adding "Air and Space Expeditionary Service Ribbon".

M-2

Proposed by Department of Florida ARTICLE ! – MEMBERS Sec. 101 – Eligibility.

Amend Sec. 101 - Eligibility., Manual of Procedure, by adding the following to the ELIGIBILITY GUIDE: "Silver Star, Bronze Star and Purple Heart".

M-3

Proposed by Department of Vermont

ARTICLE I – MEMBERS

Sec. 101 – Eligibility.

Amend Sec. 101 - Eligibility., Manual of Procedure, by adding the following under the ELIGIBILITY GUIDE before "Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger Pay" or where appropriate:

"Foreign Duty Service on Foreign Soil, its Airspace, and Territorial Waters for not less than 30 consecutive days, or a total of 60 non-consecutive days of duty after September 11, 2001."

M-4

Recommended by National Bylaws Study Group Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief ARTICLE IV — DISTRICTS Sec. 418 — Officers: Duties and Obligations.

Amend Sec. 418 – Officers: Duties and Obligations., Manual of Procedure, under (a)(11), by replacing the first sentence of the first paragraph with the following:

"The District Inspector shall ensure that each Post in the District is inspected during the administrative year."

M-5

Proposed by Department of Georgia

ARTICLE V – DEPARTMENTS

Sec. 518 - Officers: Duties and Obligations.

Amend Sec. 518 – Officers: Duties and Obligations., Manual of Procedure, under (a)(4)f., in the second sentence, by removing "and a hard copy".

M-6

Recommended by National Bylaws Study Group Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief ARTICLE VII – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS Sec. 706 – National Home for Children Funds.

Amend Sec. 706 – National Home for Children Funds, Manual of Procedure, by renaming the section as "National Home Funds".

M-7

Recommended by National Bylaws Study Group
Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE VIII - UNIFORMS, BADGES, ETC.

Sec. 803 - Manufacture and Use of Seals, Emblems, Badges, Insignia and Uniforms.

Amend Sec. 803 – Manufacture and Use of Seals, Emblems, Badges, Insignia and Uniforms, Manual of Procedure, under Cap., by replacing the second sentence with the following:

"The color shall be green, shade 51; Suntan; or other colors as the National Council of Administration may dictate."

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Section 1401 of the National Bylaws states:

"Any member in good standing, a Post, a District, or a Department, may propose an amendment to the National Bylaws; provided, however, before consideration at the National Convention, the proposed amendment must be approved by a Department Convention. Immediately following a Department Convention, the proposed amendments must be forwarded to National Headquarters.

A national officer may propose an amendment to the National Bylaws and forward the proposed amendment to the Adjutant General.

All proposed amendments will be available to each Post by the Adjutant General at least fifteen (15) days before the assembling of the National Convention.

Amendments require a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting at the National Convention.

All amendments adopted at any National Convention according to the provisions of this section shall take effect thirty (30) days after the final adjournment of the National Convention at which they were adopted, unless specifically stated otherwise in the amendment."

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE AND RITUAL AMENDMENTS

Section 1401 of the Manual of Procedure states:

"The Manual of Procedure and Ritual may be amended by the Council of Administration by a majority vote of the members present and voting at a regular meeting as prescribed in Section 622 of the Bylaws.

The Manual of Procedure and Ritual may be amended by the National Convention by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting provided that such amendments have been forwarded, through channels; have been properly approved; and, have been proposed by a Post, a District, a Department, or recommended by a National officer. All proposed amendments will be available to Posts by the Adjutant General at least fifteen (15) days before the assembling of the National Convention for those amendments being proposed for consideration at the convention."

The Manual of Procedure contains material in the Bylaws as well as additional explanatory material.

A change in the Bylaws automatically changes the Manual of Procedure and it is not necessary to act individually on the corresponding Manual change.

124TH NATIONAL CONVENTION ALL PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS JULY 22-27, 2023 PHOENIX, ARIZONA

FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

201 202	CREATE VFW NATIONAL SUBMARINE LIAISON OFFICE VFW BOYCOTT OF CHINESE MANUFACTURED GOODS
202	GENERAL
	GENERAL
301	CREATE PATROL INSIGNIA AWARDS FOR THE SS, SSG, SSN, AND SSGN SUBMARINE CREWS
302	BUDDY POPPY ® DISTRIBUTION ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS
303	NATIONAL FLAG TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THOSE WHO DIED WHILE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES
304	DEPORTED VETERANS
305	FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID
306	OFFER RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS
307	SUPPORTING ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR APPLICANTS
308	RECOGNITION OF ADDING 74 SAILORS ON THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL WALL
309	PURPOSE OF OUR ORGANIZATION
310	EXPAND THE DATES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR THE ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL
	NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN AFFAIRS
401	PRESERVE THE ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE
402	ELIMINATE SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARASSMENT IN THE MILITARY
403	ENSURE DOD COMPLIANCE WITH TAP LAW
404	KEEP DEFENSE BUDGET RELEVANT
405	LINK MILITARY PAY INCREASES TO PRIVATE-SECTOR INCREASES
406	PROVIDE FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF MILITARY RETIREMENT PAY AND VA
	DISABILITY COMPENSATION
407	PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE TRICARE BENEFIT
408	AWARDING THE ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL FOR EXPEDITIONARY
400	OPERATIONS IN EASTERN EUROPE
409	PROTECT POW/MIA FULL ACCOUNTING MISSION FUNDING
410	CALL FOR MORE UNILATERAL POW/MIA ACTIONS BY VIETNAM
411	RECOGNITION FOR AFGHAN AND IRAQI COMBAT TRANSLATORS
412 413	SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF COREA
	SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
414 415	SUPPORT OF NATO DETERRENCE AND SUPPORT TO UKRAINE SUPPORT THE STATE OF ISRAEL
415 416	SUPPORT THE STATE OF ISRAEL SUPPORT THE AWARDING OF THE VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL
410	FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN THE S.S. MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT
417	BRING BACK UNITED STATES NAVY RECRUITING IN THE PHILIPPINES

- 418 HONORING THE OATHS OF U.S. SERVICE MEMBERS
- 419 HONDURAS

VETERANS SERVICE

601	ADEQUATE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET
602	VA PHARMACEUTICAL CO-PAYMENTS
603	VA MEDICARE AND TRICARE REIMBURSEMENT
604	NURSING HOME ELIGIBILITY
605	TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY HEALTH CARE
606	PTSD AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE
607	VA HEALTH CARE FOR WOMEN VETERANS
608	EXPAND VA CAREGIVER BENEFITS
609	SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY CARE OPTIONS
610	FOREIGN MEDICAL CLAIM PROGRAM (FMP)
611	ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD MODERNIZATION (EHRM)
612	EXTEND SERVICE CONNECTION PRESUMPTION TO BLAST SURVIVORS
613	TINNITUS AND HEARING LOSS PRESUMPTIVE COMPENSABLE SERVICE CONNECTION
614	VA CLAIMS WORKLOAD
615	TOXIC EXPOSURES
616	DIGITAL CLAIMS PROCESS
617	VA LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM
618	DOMICILIARY PROGRAMS AND TEMPORARY TOTAL RATINGS
619	PROTECTING VA ACCREDITATION
620	APPEALS MODERNIZATION AND LEGACY REMANDS
621	VSO INVOLVEMENT WITH VA SCHEUDLE FOR RATING DISABILITIES
622	REVIEW OF VA DECISIONS
623	IMPROVE BENEFITS FOR SURVIVORS
624	VETERAN HOUSING AND FOOD SECURITY PRIORITIES
625	ENSURE VETERAN SUCCESS IN EDUCATION
626	VOCATIONAL READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY
627	SUPPORT VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS
628	VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP
629	UNDERSERVED VETERANS
630	FORT MCCLELLAN, ALABAMA, TOXIC EXPOSURE
631	IMPROVING VA MENTAL HEALTH CARE FOCUS
632	EXPAND PACT ACT PRESUMPTIONS TO INCLUDE CANCERS AMONG MISSILEERS
633	JUSTICE FOR ALS VETERANS
634	TINNITUS & HEARING LOSS PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE-CONNECTION
635	INCREASE VETERANS' BURIAL BENEFITS
636	EXPAND VETERAN TREATMENT COURTS
637	CONTINUE FIGHTING TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS
638	SUPPORTING WOMEN VETERANS
639	MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA (MST)
640	PROTECT THE HOMES OF SURVIVING SPOUSES
641	GREEN STAR SERVICE FLAG

TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND INTERNAL ORGANIZATION This committee meets at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 23

Chairman: Richard L. Eubank, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 10165, CA Vice Chairman: John E. Moon, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 2873, OH

This committee considers all resolutions involving financial and organizational policies and procedure and makes recommendations thereon.

No. and Dept. Title Convention Action 201 HI CREATE VFW NATIONAL SUBMARINE LIAISON OFFICE...... MO BE IT RESOLVED, the members of VFW Department of Hawaii, Missouri and WI Wisconsin request that the VFW National Headquarters establish an office of the National VFW Liaison to the Submarine community to be manned by two VFW Submariners holding the offices of VFW National Liaison to the Submarine Community – East and West Coast. This office will contribute to greater understanding, enhance new member recruitment initiatives within the submarine community, target legislative actions to recognize the unique needs of our submarine veterans and contribute to better care for submarine veterans by the Veterans' Administration, 202 MO VFW BOYCOTT OF CHINESE MANUFACTURED GOODS BE IT RESOLVED, that in response to its expansionist policy and use of

BE IT RESOLVED, that in response to its expansionist policy and use of slave labor by the CCP, we, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, immediately implement an active boycott of Chinese manufactured goods for both organizational needs and the VFW Store.

TO COMMITTEE ON GENERAL RESOLUTIONS This committee meets at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 23

Chairman: Robert E. Wallace, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 9503, NJ

This committee considers resolutions of a general nature, including those affecting the veteran only as a part of a special group and those not falling within the category of other committees.

No. a	nd Dept	t. Title	Convention Action
301	HI MO UT WI	CREATE PATROL INSIGNIA AWARDS FOR THE SS, SSG, SSN, AND SS SUBMARINE CREWS	souri, and e o o,
302	VA	BUDDY POPPY * DISTRIBUTION ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United engage with DoD to update this 17-year-old Instruction and/or en a Memorandum of Understanding to protect and perpetuate acceptod installations by the VFW for the innocent distribution of Budd Poppies and associated, non-coercive or predatory, fund-raising a as a matter of mutual benefit.	States, ter into ss to ly
303	VA	NATIONAL FLAG TO HONOR AND REMEMBER THOSE WHO DIED WE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES	ates, to
304	CA	DEPORTED VETERANS BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States House of Representative and United States Senate to amend the United States Code 8 U.S.C. 1101(a) (2)	States ed

clearly state "The following shall be nationals*, but not citizens of the United States: (1) A person who, by Conscription or enlistment, entered any branch of the United States armed forces and, this shall be retroactive to service members/veterans previously removed from the United States."

- 305 CO FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID......

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the Department of Education to remove any questions related to a parent's Untaxed Income related to veteran benefits from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
- 306 CO OFFER RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS.......

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to require states and territories to include a Ranked Choice Voting option to be used in Federal elections.
- 307 RI SUPPORTING ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR APPLICANTS.....

 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Rhode island enthusiastically supports and strongly recommends National provide standardized guidance on how to review, assess and grant eligibility determination of applicants of brothers and sisters of America who want to join the VFW and preserve the rights of veterans and support each other as only those who share in the camaraderie forged by conflict can.
- NJ RECOGNITION OF ADDING 74 SAILORS ON THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL
 WALL...

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States,
 that we urge the Congress and DOD to reconsider and make exceptions
 to have these 74 Sailors be enshrined on the Vietnam Memorial Wall with
 their brothers and sisters.
- - 1. to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members;
 - 2. to assist worthy comrades;

- 3. to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans;
- 4. to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws;
- 5. to foster true patriotism;
- 6. to maintain and extend the institution of American freedom; and
- 7. to preserve and defend the United States from all enemies."

310 NV EXPAND THE DATES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR THE ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL......

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, petition Congress to direct the Secretary of Defense to authorize the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for those that served in Thailand and on the ships in the coastal waters of Vietnam from 29 March 1973 to 30 April 1975 in support of the Vietnamese Army.

TO COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS This committee meets at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 23

Chairman:

John W. Stroud, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 2313, NV Vice Chairman: William A. Thien, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 3281, IN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON POW/MIA This committee meets at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 23

Chairman:

Larry W. Rivers, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 1736, LA

This committee considers all resolutions pertaining to national defense, military policy, foreign affairs, POW/MIAs and civil defense and makes recommendations thereon.

No. and Dept. Title

Convention Action

401 CIC PRESERVE THE ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE

> BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we will redouble our efforts to work with Congress and the Administration to preserve the All-Volunteer Force, to end the sequester, and to help bring some permanent financial stability to a military that will continue to operate in a very dangerous and unpredictable world.

402 CIC

ELIMINATE SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARASSMENT IN THE MILITARY BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we strongly demand DOD become more aggressive in its efforts to reduce sexual assault and harassment, to provide victims with proper and necessary medical and mental health care, as well as assistance with disability claims as may be required, to aggressively and diligently investigate every reported incident and punish attackers, as well as Individuals involved in acts of retribution and retaliation, and that Congress perform rigorous oversight of IRC recommendations and the recently passed UCMJ reforms to ensure timely and proper Implementation, and identify areas for improvement.

403 CIC

ENSURE DOD COMPLIANCE WITH TAP LAW BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to conduct oversight of DOD's compliance with the TAP law, afford VA accredited representatives a consistent means to access TSMs during TAP, and require DOD and its partner agencies to continuously improve TAP and maximize access to materials and resources for TSMs, veterans, and their families.

- 404 CIC KEEP DEFENSE BUDGET RELEVANT BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we strongly urge Congress to provide the necessary funding equal to not less than 5 percent of GDP for the readiness, training, modernization, healthcare, and quality of life initiatives for the armed forces of today and tomorrow. 405 CIC LINK MILITARY PAY INCREASES TO PRIVATE-SECTOR INCREASES..... BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we call upon Congress to maintain military base pay comparability with private-sector wages by ensuring annual military pay raise percentages match or exceed annual ECI increases. 406 CIC PROVIDE FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF MILITARY RETIREMENT PAY BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we support legislation that allows for the concurrent receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability compensation without offset and regardless of disability rating percentage. 407 CIC PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE TRICARE BENEFIT..... BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we oppose all Tricare fee increases as well as any additional fee increases or attempts to erode the earned benefit of military healthcare. Moreover, DOD should reform its healthcare programs by eliminating institutional inefficiencies before considering fee increases; and
- AWARDING THE ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL FOR
 EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS IN EASTERN EUROPE

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, supports and encourages Congress and the Secretary of Defense to designate Operations ATLANTIC RESOLVE and EUROPEAN ASSURE, DETER, and REINFORCE since February 24, 2022 in support of NATO's deterrence and defense posture on its eastern flank as U.S. military operations that are eligible for the award of the ARMED FORCES

EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL.

reproductive health services, specialty care, and pharmacies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress and DOD to ensure timely and equal access across the force, regardless of geographic location, to holistic healthcare services including medical and non-medical mental health counseling,

409 CIC PROTECT POW/MIA FULL ACCOUNTING MISSION FUNDING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we call upon Congress to continue to increase funding levels for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and all supporting organizations involved in the Fullest possible Accounting Mission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress must pass advanced appropriations to prevent a slowdown in recoveries and allow for budget carry-over allowing DPAA to plan multi-year operations.

410 CIC CALL FOR MORE UNILATERAL POW/MIA ACTIONS BY VIETNAM

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we encourage Vietnam to grant U.S. government analysts access to the PAVN archives where potentially valuable documents which could lead to case resolution may be located; and

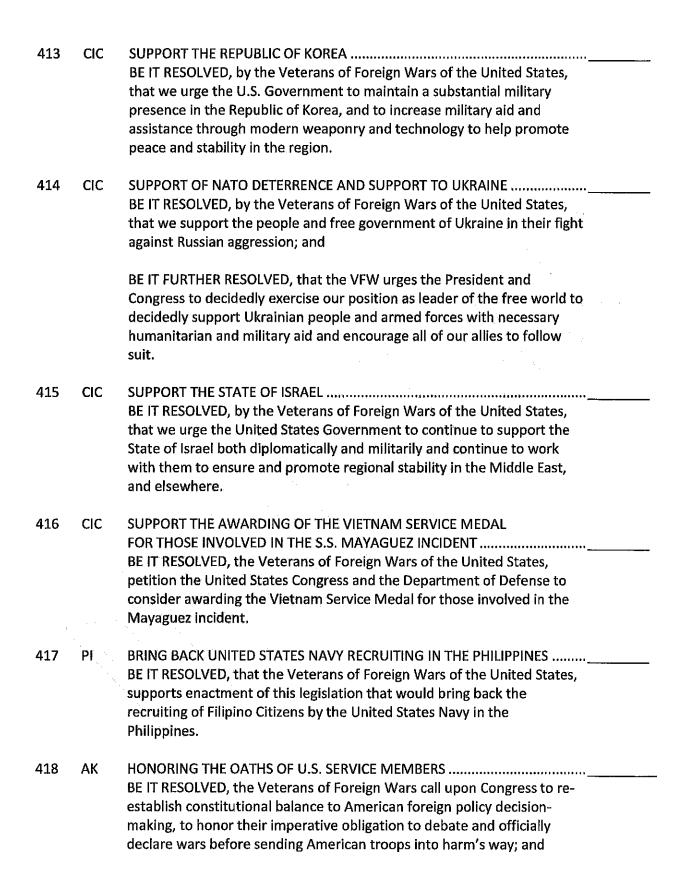
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in this cooperative effort, that we encourage the Vietnamese government to turn over any items of a personal nature from missing American servicemen that are currently in the custody of Vietnamese museums or other locations under their control so they may be returned to their grieving families.

- 411 CIC RECOGNITION FOR AFGHAN AND IRAQI COMBAT TRANSLATORS

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the President of the United States and the U.S. Congress to recognize the contributions of Afghan and Iraqi Combat Interpreter Immigrants who stood shoulder to shoulder with, assisted and protected U.S. military service members, U.S. diplomats and government agents, non-governmental organizations, and media organizations during U.S. involvement in those countries.
- 412 CIC SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the Administration and Congress to strictly adhere to the concepts of the Taiwan Relations Act by continuing to approve the sale of state-of-the-art military equipment, weapons, and technology to maintain an adequate defense capability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon the Administration and Congress to support the admission of the Republic of China on Taiwan into the United Nations, and to provide the President of Taiwan the same respect and privileges due other visiting Heads of State.



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars advocate for the passing of any bill that immediately repeals outdated Authorizations for Use of Military Force.

419 IA HONDURAS.....

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we strongly urge Congress to issue an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, or similar recognition of having served in an area of hostility, to all U.S. troops who served in Honduras from 1981 to 1992.

TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS SERVICE RESOLUTIONS This committee meets at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 23

Chairman:

Thomas A. Pouliot, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 10010, MT

Vice Chairman: Keith E. Harman, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 3035, OH

This committee considers all resolutions pertaining to the Department of Veterans Affairs laws, policy and procedure and laws providing rehabilitation benefits for veterans. It also considers resolutions pertaining to veterans' employment, civil service and housing problems and resolutions that require legislative action and makes recommendations thereon.

No. and Dept. Title			nvention Action
601	CIC	ADEQUATE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGETBE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States that we urge the Congress of the United States to authorize appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs which fully found maintain the integrity and enhancement of veteran entitlement programs and health care system.	und
602	CIC	VA PHARMACEUTICAL CO-PAYMENTS BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United Starthat we oppose increases in Department of Veterans Affairs pharmaceutical co-payments; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress must exempt preventive medicines from VA pharmaceutical co-payment requirements.	
603	CIC	VA MEDICARE AND TRICARE REIMBURSEMENT	tes,
604	CIC	NURSING HOME ELIGIBILITY BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United State that we urge Congress to establish a standard Department of Veter Affairs nursing home entitlement for all veterans enrolled in the VA health care system.	tes, ans
605	CIC	TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY HEALTH CARE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United State that we urge Congress to provide sufficient funding to the Departm Veterans Affairs to ensure that appropriate screening, diagnostic	tes,

services, treatment and life-long case management services are available to every veteran suffering from conditions associated with service-connected head trauma to include, but not limited to Traumatic Brain Injuries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve research pertaining to screening methods, diagnostic tools, and treatment of conditions associated with TBIs caused by blast injuries, blunt traumas, motor vehicle accidents, falls and other related injuries to ensure veterans who have experienced a TBI receive effective health care.

606 CIC PTSD AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we strongly urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to continue to adequately staff VA mental health treatment and research programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to dedicate adequate resources to address the alarming rate at which Veterans die by suicide to include moving the Office of Suicide Prevention from Veterans Health Administration to the enterprise level of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to assess what specific treatments or practices are the most effective in helping our veterans cope with their PTSD.

607 CIC VA HEALTH CARE FOR WOMEN VETERANS.....

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge VA to continue to staff, equip, monitor and enhance health care services available to women veterans at all VA medical facilities and expand its designated women's health program to mental health care to ensure access to mental health care providers who understand women-specific mental health conditions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Secretary of Veteran Affairs to improve outreach to women veterans, allow women to choose the gender of their VA health care providers and properly train VA's workforce to treat women veterans with the respect and dignity they have earned and deserve.

608 CIC EXPAND VA CAREGIVER BENEFITS.....

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to provide the accurate resources to VA for the expansion of the Department of Veterans Affairs Comprehensive

Assistance for Family Caregivers Program to veterans of all eras; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge VA to establish regulations clarifying caregiver appeal procedures allowing VA to adjudicate caregiver appeals to address the growing backlog of veterans in need of caregiver benefits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to fully align the VA's Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Program with the Department of Defense Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living program by including in its eligibility criteria veterans who require caregiver services as a result of serious illnesses incurred in the line of duty.

609 CIC SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY CARE OPTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that Congress must provide Department of Veterans Affairs with the oversight, appropriations and assets necessary to properly implement the VA MISSION Act as intended by Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA comply with federal prompt payment requirements and incentivize private sector health care providers to participate in its community care programs, while ensuring veterans and eligible dependents are not held financially liable for services furnished through such programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA must remain the guarantor and coordinator of care for enrolled veterans and that the VFW remains opposed to privatizing VA or eroding VA's ability to provide direct care to veterans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW opposes any out-of-pocket costs for care coordinated by VA for service-connected disabilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress and VA must furnish and conduct proper outreach to ensure veterans are fully aware of their health care options.

610 CIC FOREIGN MEDICAL CLAIM PROGRAM (FMP)

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge VA to revise their woefully inadequate paper-based system and utilize Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), to allow veterans and service providers to file claims electronically directly to VA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge VHA to provide adequate staffing

for the FMP to provide timely adjudication of the claims; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Secretary of Veteran Affairs to revise the FMPs banking system to align with the Veterans Benefits Administration's banking system, providing electronic funds transfer of reimbursements to veterans and service providers, eliminating the antiquated process of mailing US Treasury checks.

611 CIC ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD MODERNIZATION (EHRM).......

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge VA to provide competent command and control from VHA leadership and to enforce standardization of the electronic health record (EHR) integration across VHA facilities and continued partnership and collaboration with VSO stakeholders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Secretary of Veteran Affairs to adopt best practices from DoD to work with the vendor and VHA facilities to implement the EHR on schedule.

- 612 CIC EXTEND SERVICE CONNECTION PRESUMPTION TO BLAST SURVIVORS.......

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to approve a presumption of service connection for conditions associated with blast exposure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to amend the Schedule for Rating Disabilities to provide a minimum compensable evaluation for any service connected hearing loss for which a hearing aid is medically indicated.

614 CIC VA CLAIMS WORKLOAD......

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that Congress require Department of Veterans Affairs to accept private medical evidence and opinions in lieu of VA examinations whenever they are sufficient for rating purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we continue to advise that Congress exercise its oversight authority and provide the vital resources necessary to sustain a sufficient workforce capable of effectively managing the workload and provide quality and timely service to those claiming benefits or appealing decisions from VA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress bolsters its oversight and funding of VA technology initiatives to ensure that they are constructive, relevant and effective in streamlining claims processing and improving quality of entitlement decisions.

615 CIC TOXIC EXPOSURES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to invest adequate resources to study, diagnose, and treat conditions and illnesses associated with toxic exposures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress and the Department of Veterans Affairs to grant a presumption of service connection for all conditions and illnesses that are deemed by scientific evidence to be at least as likely as not associated with or caused by exposure to a toxic substance or environmental hazard and not solely on the basis of a definitive causal link or scientific certainty; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the Department of Defense to disclose known and potential toxic exposures during all military operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress ensures that the Department of Defense expedites declassification efforts related to exposure events and that the Department of Veterans Affairs extends presumptive service connection to veterans suffering from conditions or illnesses found to be associated with exposure to toxic substances.

616 CIC DIGITAL CLAIMS PROCESS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Department of Veterans Affairs to update regulations to authorize VSOs the same advocacy rights in the digital environment as were allowed in the paper-based claims process and honor proof of digital transmission to VA as the effective date; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW supports the use of Automated Decision Support in assisting RVSRs to accurately adjudicate claims for benefits, we encourage the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to continue to work with all VA-accredited entities to develop real-time, secure access to tools that allow advocates to provide comprehensive assistance to

clients in real time.

617 CIC VA LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM.....

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress and Department of Veterans Affairs to continue to ensure that VA life insurance rates are competitive with private insurance company rates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to pass legislation to index for inflation the maximum coverage rate of the VA Life Insurance program.

618 CIC DOMICILIARY PROGRAMS AND TEMPORARY TOTAL RATINGS......

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that Congress restore eligibility for temporary 100 percent ratings to include medical treatment provided by all domiciliary and day programs provided the program is treating a service-connected disability.

619 CIC PROTECTING VA ACCREDITATION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to pass legislation protecting VA beneficiaries from predatory companies attempting to by-pass the VA accreditation process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge federal law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute companies that prey on our nation's veterans and their dependents by charging exorbitant fees under the guise of providing claims assistance.

620 CIC APPEALS MODERNIZATION AND LEGACY REMANDS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs enforces proper development of VA claims by obtaining all pertinent records when claims are initially processed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States that we urge that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs enforces policies mandating that exams are requested with accurate information and eliminating biases caused by improper phrasing on exam order requests; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States that we urge that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs enforces policies authorizing the assignment of earlier effective dates

when claims are continuously pursued without the veteran submitting an additional appeal for the effective date.

- 621 CIC VSO INVOLVEMENT WITH VA SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES......

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to collaborate with VSO stakeholders prior to proposing any regulation or policy changes which impact our nation's veterans.
- BE IT RESOLVED, that Congress passes legislation granting representatives accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs the ability to address development and rating errors prior to decisions being finalized, thus ensuring that accurate benefits decisions are made in a timely fashion.
- 624 CIC VETERAN HOUSING AND FOOD SECURITY PRIORITIES

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge the President and Congress to continue to address veterans' homelessness by increasing the availability of affordable housing, expanding educational and employment opportunities and training and providing gender-specific services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Department of Veterans Affairs should periodically adjust Grant and Per Diem program rates for inflation to ensure sufficient operation of homeless veteran assistance programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA compensation and non-service connected pension should not be considered countable income by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and Department of Agriculture in determining program eligibility; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Department of Veterans Affairs should annually adjust grant and per diem program rates for inflation, based on separate instances for food and housing, with the latter adjusted for local variations in housing cost based on the Variable Housing Allowance Tables used by the Department of Defense to ensure sufficient operation

of homeless veteran assistance programs.

625 CIC ENSURE VETERAN SUCCESS IN EDUCATION......

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to ensure proper oversight of Department of Veterans Affairs educational benefit programs by developing quality metrics with which to demonstrate student veteran success in higher education, and close financial loopholes through which certain academic programs can exploit GI Bill reimbursement models; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress ensure veterans receive equitable access to benefits like housing payments and quality preenrollment educational information to ensure veterans are academically and financially prepared to succeed in higher education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to increase book stipends and cost of living adjustments to give student veterans the proper resources and tools to be successful in their pursuit of higher education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we work to extend full GI Bill benefits for all combat veterans and preserve quality GI Bill benefits for all current conflict veterans and future conflict veterans to ensure they have access to quality education assistance programs.

626 CIC VOCATIONAL READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY......

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to change the eligibility delimiting date for Department of Veterans Affairs Vocational Readiness and Employment program by eliminating the 12-year-delimiting date for eligibility to Chapter 31 benefits and allow all veterans with employment impediments or problems with independent living to qualify for VR&E services for life; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VA must restructure performance measures to emphasize long-term readiness versus the current short-term indicators of success. Furthermore, VR&E should continually follow up with veterans considered to be rehabilitated to ensure that the rehabilitation and employment placement plans have been successful and if unsuccessful, to ensure the reasons and bases are clearly communicated to the veteran; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA streamlines eligibility and entitlement to VR&E programs to provide more timely intervention and assistance to all disabled veterans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VA must provide better information about VR&E during the Transition Assistance Program Class for separating service members.

627 CIC SUPPORT VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS......

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we support viable and effective veterans employment and training systems, such as the Jobs for Veterans State Grant program and other Department of Labor Veterans Employment and Training Service programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Congress to improve and enforce federal veteran-hiring mandates for contractors who do business with the federal government as outlined in Title 38 USC 4212; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that federal veteran hiring initiatives and programs must be held accountable for the effectiveness of the services provided and funding should be adjusted to reflect abilities in creating long-term meaningful careers for veterans, and state agencies that receive federal funding must be held to the same standards and report to Congress on the success of veteran hiring initiatives.

628 CIC VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP.....

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that Congress expand entrepreneurial education and networking programs for veterans via veterans small business centers and other entrepreneurship programs funded through the Small Business Administration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress expand veteran's and disabled veteran's access to capital by expanding direct loan programs through the Small Business Administration; but such programs should never come at the expense of other earned veterans' benefits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress hold Department of Veterans Affairs accountable for its duty to properly verify veteran entrepreneurs to help achieve the federal government's three-percent veterans contracting goal.

629 CIC UNDERSERVED VETERANS.....

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge VA to improve data collection and better analyze results to identify challenges and disparities in benefits of underserved veterans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge VA to implement favorable changes to the benefit of underserved veterans based on findings of fact and not anecdotal or arbitrary statistics.

- 630 NH FORT MCCLELLAN, ALABAMA, TOXIC EXPOSURE......
 - BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., that we urge Congress to support legislation "That the veterans who served at Fort McClellan who are suffering illnesses caused by a toxic exposure; that these illnesses be added to the list of VA's Presumed Conditions."
- BE IT RESOLVED, that the VFW urges the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expeditiously review and reissue the National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide 2018 2028 to ensure currency and functionality, and further emphasize consistency and symbiosis with other National and DoD strategies focused on reducing suicide among those who wear or have worn our country's uniform.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the VFW urges Congress to adequate fund the Department of Defense (DoD) and VA studies to ensure interorganizational cooperation and resources are brought to focus in these cancer studies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW urges Congress to amend the PACT Act to recognize presumption of the aforementioned cancers as well as any other cancers the studies may identify among those serving or who have served in ICBM-related military occupational specialties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that while such studies are being conducted and results assessed, that those personnel who hold or have held ICMD-related military occupational specialties and who are diagnosed with cancers of the cervix, thyroid, Hodgkin's Lymphoma, or Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma receive presumptive causation to military service and associated compensation unless the study(ies) prove otherwise.

633 VA JUSTICE FOR ALS VETERANS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we call upon the VA to carve out an exception to the eight-year disability rule to allow survivors of veterans who die from ALS to receive the increased monthly DIC payment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon Congress to renew efforts to legislate and fund such action as a matter of extreme urgency.

- TINNITUS & HEARING LOSS PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE-CONNECTION......_

 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress and the VA to grant service-connection on a presumptive basis for any veteran diagnosed after discharge with hearing loss and/or tinnitus when there is evidence that the veteran participated in combat operations; worked in a position or occupational specialty likely to have damaged the veteran's hearing; or was exposed to any form of auditory trauma.
- BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we believe there is still a serious deficit between the original value of the plot allowance benefit and its current value. Congress should increase the plot allowance for all eligible veterans and expand the eligibility for the plot allowance for all veterans who might be eligible for burial in a national cemetery, not just those who served during wartime; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United, that we urge Congress and the Administration to provide the resources required to meet the critical and sensitive nature of the National Cemetery Administration's mission thereby fulfilling the nation's commitment to all veterans who have served their country so honorably and faithfully.

- 636 IL EXPAND VETERAN TREATMENT COURTS.....BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we advocate for the continued use and expansion of Veteran Treatment Courts across the country.
- 637 IL CONTINUE FIGHTING TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United Stats wants to ensure that the issue of veteran homelessness remains a priority for both the Administration and Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we encourage Congress to increase the availability of affordable housing; expand education/training programs; and provide employment opportunities until all veterans are properly housed and gainfully employed.

638 IL SUPPORTING WOMEN VETERANS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States,

urges Congress to support and increase the availability of high quality gender-specific services at the VA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, urges the VA to ensure that every VA facility has a zero tolerance policy towards sexual harassment for employees and patients.

639 IL MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA (MST).....

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States that we call on DoD to continue to enhance its MST awareness programs, and calls on VA to continually improve its MST treatment programs and to disseminate evidence-based clinical practice guidelines to clinicians who care for veterans who have suffered from MST; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States that we call upon Congress to continue its oversight and hearings related to military sexual trauma care and benefits with the goal of improving VA and DoD collaboration and improving policies and practices for military sexual trauma care and disability compensation.

640 CO PROTECT THE HOMES OF SURVIVING SPOUSES......

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to establish a grant program to assist surviving spouses who become eligible for DIC benefits to remain in their homes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this grant program be named The Sergeant. Sam Wybenga Grant Program.

PΑ

641 NJ GREEN STAR SERVICE FLAG

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we petition Congress to enact legislation that would federally recognize the families of Veterans lost to suicide as "Green Star" family members by approving the "Green Star Service Flag" currently proposed as H.R. 3076; To amend title 36, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a flag for next of kin of veterans who die by suicide.

TO COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION RULES This committee meets at 12:00 p.m., Sunday, July 23

☐ APPROVED

Chairman:

Edward S. Banas, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 10004, CT Vice Chairman: John E. Hamilton, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 5450, FL

> **CONVENTION RULES** 124th National Convention **Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States** Phoenix, Arizona

- 1. That, in accordance and conjunction with the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure, and with any exception noted here, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be recognized as parliamentary authority for this Convention.
- That when a registered delegate desires to make a motion or address the Convention, the delegate 2. shall rise, address the Chair as "Comrade Commander-in-Chief," and after being recognized, shall state their name, Post number and Department before proceeding.
- 3. A registered delegate shall be permitted to speak but twice on any one subject, or any pending resolution for a period not to exceed five minutes each except by consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention present and voting, provided that chairmen of Convention committees may speak as frequently as necessary in connection with reports of their committees. In the event of controversy, the presiding officer shall not entertain any motion which will curtail further debate without affording the maker of the motion or a member of the delegation presenting the resolution an opportunity for five minutes of final rebuttal.
- 4. All resolutions offered by individual registered delegates must bear the endorsement of the Department Commander or, if absent, the Department Adjutant. All resolutions must be submitted to the office of the Adjutant General for numbering and referral to committee no later than 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 26, 2023 and must be accompanied by a written explanation as to why the resolution was not presented to the Department Convention for consideration.
- All resolutions offered on the floor at the Convention will initially be in writing, and shall automatically 5. and without reading, be referred to the Adjutant General for assignment to the proper committee.
- 6. Committee chairmen, in reporting on resolutions referred to their committee, shall first read the number of those resolutions on which favorable action is recommended. Specific resolutions may be set aside for individual action at the request of any delegate, the others being voted upon collectively. After action has been taken on all such resolutions, the chairman shall read the number and title of those resolutions which the committee has disapproved. A resolution disapproved by the committee shall be automatically rejected unless a motion is made and seconded that it be approved, in which case it shall be brought up for debate and Convention action.
- This Convention will not consider any resolution dealing with the expenditure or appropriation of 7. organizational funds.

- 8. The Convention will not consider any resolution endorsing legislation sponsored by any other veterans' organization, or requesting us to join with any other organization in sponsoring legislation not expressly proposed by the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- 9. Only delegates to this Convention may speak in debate, make motions and vote during Convention proceedings.
- 10. Delegates shall vote individually on any item of business coming before the Convention and cannot be required to vote as a block with others from their delegation.
- 11. Voting strength shall be determined by those delegates registered as of the close of the credential registration booth the previous day and as reported to the National Convention. The Department Commanders will receive, prior to the beginning of each business session, a list of posts that have properly registered delegates. Only delegates representing those Posts listed on the report will be accorded voting privileges.
- 12. On roll calls, the Department Commander of each delegation shall poll their delegation's registered delegates on the floor and shall announce the vote of their delegation.
- 13. Registered delegates of a delegation may arrive at a vote in any manner, but shall announce it in terms of full units and not in terms of a fractional part of a vote.
- 14. Reconsideration of a motion or resolution upon which final disposition has been made shall not be allowed after the meeting at which it was acted on has been recessed, unless the body is notified of such contemplated action prior to the close of that meeting.
- 15. When the report of the Department Commander of the delegation is not acceptable to all registered delegates of the delegation and a poll of the Department registered delegates is demanded by three registered delegates of said Department, the Adjutant General shall poll the registered delegates, without discussion of question.
- 16. In accordance with Section 621 of the National Bylaws, voting shall be by acclamation as defined within Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, except a roll call may be demanded by ten registered delegates representing Posts in ten separate Departments, or by order of the Commander-in-Chief.
- 17. Nominating speeches for the National officers shall be limited to five minutes each. The time allocated to encompass all seconding speeches shall be limited to four minutes total. Nomination and election of National officers will be held according to the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, and Section 617 of the National Manual of Procedure.
- 18. Registered delegates and persons recognized by the Chair shall be entitled to a respectful hearing, and the Chair shall have the authority to clear the gallery or the floor or have the Sergeant-at-Arms escort from the floor any person or persons who may create any disturbance which interferes with the orderly procedure of the Convention.
- 19. The Commander-in-Chief may, as may be necessary and appropriate to informing the membership of the activities of this Convention, authorize that all or parts of the Convention be streamed through the website of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- 20. Consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention present and voting is necessary for suspension of the rules of this Convention.

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