

CONSTITUTION
AND
BY-LAWS
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Minnesota
including
RULES
and
APPLICABLE
CONVENTION MANDATES



Prepared by
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

St. Paul, Minnesota

Revised July 2020

OFFICIAL

The Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion, Department of Minnesota, as are set out herein, are in full force and effect, and represent actions taken by the Department Conventions up to and including the Department Convention held at Willmar (2019).

This booklet also includes a tabulation of current mandates as were recodified by convention action at Rochester, beginning with first convention in 1919 and continuing through the convention at Willmar (2019).

MICHAEL MAXA
Department Adjutant

July 2020

CONSTITUTION

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Department of Minnesota

ARTICLE ONE

Name

The name of this organization shall be "The American Legion, Department of Minnesota." Its principal office shall be maintained in the City of St. Paul.

ARTICLE TWO

Nature

Section 1. The American Legion is a civilian organization. Membership therein shall not increase or decrease liability for military or police service. Former military or naval rank does not exist in The American Legion. No member shall be addressed by his military or naval title in any convention or meeting of The American Legion.

Sec. 2. The American Legion shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking political office or preferment.

ARTICLE THREE

Organization

Section 1. The American Legion, Department of Minnesota, is a Department of and subject to the jurisdiction of The American Legion.

Sec. 2. The American Legion, Department of Minnesota, shall be organized in units termed districts, which said districts shall correspond territorially to the Congressional districts of the State of Minnesota, as they were organized immediately prior to the reapportionment act of Congress, 1930, and of local units termed posts, except that all territory included in the present corporate limits of the City of Minneapolis and the Village of Richfield shall be included in the Fifth District of the Department. District organization shall be subject to the jurisdiction of The American Legion, Department of Minnesota. Except for the exceptions listed, the posts within each County of each district shall be organized into County Councils under the jurisdiction of the Department of Minnesota, The American Legion. A staff of officers shall be elected and regular meetings of the Council held, and in all elections and other business transacted, each post shall have an equal vote:

Exceptions:

(1) The Fourth (4th) and Fifth (5th) Districts' Officers shall preside in their respective Counties instead of County Officers; and

(2) Rural Hennepin County, now a part of the Tenth (10th) District, shall organize itself into a Rural Hennepin County Council and function as a County Council; and

(3) Present multi-County Organizations of less than District designation now in existence may remain and continue to function as County Councils; and

(4) Counties with three (3) or less posts within them may form a multi-County Council with immediate surrounding Counties, but in no case shall more than three (3) Counties organize into one (1) Council.

No post shall be received into this organization until it shall have received a charter from the national executive committee of The American Legion.

ARTICLE FOUR

Eligibility

Section 1. Eligibility for membership in this Department shall be governed by the provisions of the national constitution of The American Legion relating thereto.

Sec. 2. There shall be no form or class of membership except active membership as provided in the national constitution.

ARTICLE FIVE

Legislative Organization

Section 1. The legislative body of this Department shall be the department convention, which shall be held annually at such time and place as shall be fixed by the preceding convention in accordance with the national constitution. In the event that the time or place shall not be fixed by the preceding convention, it shall be fixed by the department executive committee. Each convention shall adopt its own rules of order. In the event that, due to an emergency, National or State, it is for any reason impossible to convene the annual Department Convention, the Department Executive Committee, if it can be convened, shall be the legislative body for that year-shall elect Department Officers and transact all necessary Department business and legislation.

Sec. 2. The Department Convention shall be composed of delegates from each post, members of the Department Executive Committee, The Department Chaplain, Treasurer, Historian and the District Adjutants, but only delegates from posts shall be entitled to vote at such convention.

Sec. 3. Each post shall be entitled to two delegates and to one additional delegate for each hundred members or major fraction thereof, whose department dues have been received by the Department Treasurer and whose district dues have been paid to their respective district officers 30 days prior to the convention for which they are chosen. The final voting strength of each post shall be determined 30 days prior to the convention. Each post shall choose its own delegates, who shall be members in good standing of such post. In addition, each post may choose alternate delegates to serve in the absence of the principal delegates. The vote of each post shall be equal to the total number of principal delegates to which it is entitled. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by a majority of the delegates present from that post. Alternates shall have all the privileges of delegates except that of voting. Proxies shall not be allowed. A post not represented by either delegate or alternate shall have no vote. When provided by majority vote, the voting may be by district.

Sec. 4. The convention shall be the final judge of the choice and qualification of the delegates.

Sec. 5. A quorum shall exist at a department convention when ten per cent of the posts are wholly or partially represented by duly chosen delegates or alternates.

ARTICLE SIX

Department Executive Committee

Section 1. The administrative power of the organization shall be vested in the Department Commander and the Department Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Commander and the Vice Commanders, the Department Chaplain, the Department Historian, the Department Sergeant at Arms, the Department members of the National Executive Committee, the immediate past Department Commander and two members from each district, who shall be the District Commander and the immediate past District Commander. A district convention shall be held in each district not more than 60 days and not less than 15 days prior to the holding of the department convention at which district convention each post shall have the representation to which it would then be entitled at a department convention and District Officers shall be selected annually, who shall assume their office at the close of the next Department Convention. In the event of a vacancy in the representation of any district on the Executive Committee, the district, in the manner provided by its constitution and by-laws, shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. In case of the inability of any member on the Executive Committee to attend any meeting he or she may select an alternate who shall have power to vote.

Sec. 3. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Department Commander, but in no event more than 22 days after the final adjournment of the convention, and thereafter at the call of the

Commander. The Commander shall call a meeting upon the written request of five or more members of the Committee.

Sec. 4. The Executive Committee may select from its membership a sub-committee of three to seven members in addition to the Commander and may delegate its power to said sub-committee. Proceedings of said sub-committee shall, however, be subject to review by the Executive Committee.

Sec. 5. The Executive Committee or the Commander, with the consent of the Executive Committee, may appoint such standing committees as may be necessary.

Sec. 6. A majority of the Executive Committee constitutes a quorum.

Sec. 7. All past National Commanders from the Department of Minnesota, while in good standing in their respective Posts in the Department of Minnesota, shall be ex officio members of the Department Executive committee with vote, and shall also be life delegates to all Department Conventions of the Department of Minnesota of The American Legion, with vote to be exercised by them with their respective Posts.

ARTICLE SEVEN

Department Officers

Section 1. The officers of this department shall be a Commander, five Vice Commanders, Adjutant, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, Judge Advocate, Department Service Officer, Sergeant at Arms and Membership Director.

Sec. 2. The Commander, Vice Commanders, Chaplain and Sergeant at Arms shall be elected annually by the convention and said election shall be held on the third day of the convention. The Commander, Vice Commanders, Sergeant at Arms and Chaplain elected by the convention shall not be eligible to succeed themselves in the same office.

Sec. 3. The representative on the National Executive Committee shall be elected by the Department Convention every odd numbered year for a term of two years. The Convention shall also elect an Alternate National Committeeman for the same term, who shall serve in the place of said National Executive Committeeman in case of his death, resignation, or incapacity.

Sec. 4. The Department Historian shall be elected in 1983 for a term of one year, and the Historian shall be elected by the convention each year thereafter.

In the absence of a satisfactory report the Historian shall be subject to recall at any department convention.

Sec. 5. Unless otherwise specially provided, the officers in Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this article shall serve until the adjournment of

the next succeeding convention and thereafter until their successors shall have been duly chosen. A majority of all ballots cast shall be necessary for the election of the above named officers. In Elections where there are more than two candidates, the candidate receiving the fewest votes in each round of voting shall be eliminated.

Sec. 6. Except as otherwise provided, in case of a vacancy in any of the offices set forth in Sections 2 and 3, the Adjutant shall forthwith call a meeting of the Department Executive Committee and said committee shall by election fill any such vacancy, provided that a vacancy in the office of Commander shall be filled from one of the Vice-Commanders, and the vacancy thereby created thereupon filled likewise by elections.

Sec. 7. The Adjutant, Treasurer and the Judge Advocate shall be elected by the Executive Committee. In 1998, the Adjutant shall be elected to a three-year term, the Treasurer to a two-year term, and the Judge Advocate to a one-year term. On the expiration of each such initial term, each such officer shall be elected to a three-year term. Said officers may be removed from office by the Executive Committee for failure to perform job duties satisfactorily or for misconduct. The Adjutant shall be paid such sum for salary and expenses as may be determined by the said Executive Committee. The Department Service Officer shall be selected by the Standing Department Rehabilitation Committee and shall be paid such salary and expenses as may be determined by said committee with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Department Membership Director shall be appointed by the Department Commander.

Sec. 8. No Legionnaire shall hold or be elected by Convention or Executive Committee to more than one elected Department of Minnesota position.

ARTICLE EIGHT

National Representation

Section 1. The delegates-at-large to which the department is entitled in the National Convention shall be elected by the convention and shall include the incoming Commander, the incoming department representative on the National Executive Committee and the outgoing Commander.

Sec. 2. Additional delegates to which the Department is entitled shall be elected by a caucus of the delegates to the Department Convention from each District or at the various District Conventions of the State of Minnesota. The number of delegates to which each District shall be entitled shall be determined by the Department Executive Committee, which shall apportion delegates as nearly as possible on the basis of paid-up members in each district.

Sec. 3. The outgoing Department Commander shall be chairman of the delegation of the department to the National Convention. In the event the outgoing Commander is unable to attend, the chairman of the delegation to the National Convention shall be elected by the majority of the delegation at their first caucus.

ARTICLE NINE

Organization

Section 1 (a). Fifteen or more persons eligible for membership in The American Legion may apply for a charter as a post thereof to the Department Commander. Such application, when approved by the Department Commander or the Executive Committee shall be forwarded to the National Executive Committee of The American Legion. Every post charter shall be countersigned by the Department Commander and Adjutant.

(b). The Department Adjutant may apply for a charter for a Department at Large Post. The Constitution and By-Laws of said Post to be subject to the approval and ratification by the Department Executive Committee and to specifically provide that said post shall not be entitled to representation at any Department Convention or meeting.

Sec. 2. No post charter in the name of any living person shall be approved.

Sec. 3. Each post shall have a Commander, one or more Vice Commanders, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Historian, Chaplain, Service Officer, Post Executive Committee, and such other officers as the post may determine and shall select such officers who shall assume office no later than the close of the next Department Convention.

Sec. 4. Each post may prescribe its own constitution and by-laws not in conflict or inconsistent with the National and Department Constitutions.

ARTICLE TEN

Finance

Section 1. The revenue of The American Legion, Department of Minnesota, shall be derived from annual membership dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. The amount of such annual dues shall be determined by the Department Convention and remain in effect until changed by subsequent action of the Convention. The annual dues shall be collected by each post and the portion designated as District, Department and National dues shall be immediately transmitted to Department Headquarters. No post shall be qualified for representation at any district and/or Department Convention until all of said dues have been fully paid.

Sec. 3. The fiscal year of the Department shall be October first through September thirtieth.

Sec. 4. All department and post officers responsible for national or department funds shall furnish adequate bonds conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties.

Sec. 5. The Department Finance Committee shall be composed of seven members. The Department Commander and the Department Treasurer shall be full members of the Department Finance Committee with vote for the term of their office. The Department Commander shall appoint, subject to ratification by the Department Executive Committee, members to fill expiring terms, no two members of said Finance Committee to be appointed from the same district; who shall serve for a full five year term, or until removed by a majority vote of the Department Executive Committee. The Department Adjutant shall be ex-officio secretary of said committee. The appointed member serving their last year on the committee shall automatically become its chairman. The Department Finance Committee shall be charged with the adoption of the annual budget of the Department, the handling and disbursement of funds under that budget, and such other duties as shall be prescribed by the Department Executive Committee.

Sec. 6. The sinking fund of the Department, as set up by previous convention mandate, shall be continued, and from time to time the Finance Committee may add to such fund such amounts as in their discretion may be available therefrom, and shall add to the principal thereof such amounts as may be earned as either interest or income therefrom, to such principal, provided that when such fund reached the total sum of \$200,000.00 no further additions thereto need be made, and all interest or income therefrom shall be transferred to the General Operating Fund. Except as hereinbefore provided, the principal of such fund shall not be expended, except by a two-thirds vote of the Department Convention authorizing such expenditure.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

Discipline

The provision of the National Constitution and By-Laws relating thereto shall govern the discipline of posts and members of this department.

ARTICLE TWELVE

Individual Transfers

Upon application to the Post Adjutant any member of the post desiring to transfer to another post shall be entitled to a transfer card to such other post, provided all dues and assessments have been paid to date. Record of such transfer forthwith shall be transferred to the department headquarters.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN

Auxiliary

Section 1. The American Legion, Department of Minnesota, recognizes an auxiliary organization known as the American Legion Auxiliary.

Sec. 2. Eligibility for membership in the Auxiliary of the Department of Minnesota shall be governed by the provision of the National constitution of the American Legion relating thereto.

Sec. 3. The American Legion Auxiliary in the Department shall be governed by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN

American Legion Family Hospital Association

Section 1. Each member in good standing in this department is a member of the American Legion Family Hospital Association, which is officially sanctioned and supported by The American Legion, Department of Minnesota.

Sec. 2. Each post shall raise 25 cents annually for the American Legion Family Hospital Association for each member in good standing. The money so raised shall be remitted to department headquarters with the state and national dues and by it remitted as speedily as may be to the American Legion Family Hospital Association. No post may be qualified for representation at the department convention or shall have a vote in department affairs while any part of this support of the Hospital Association remains unpaid. The Executive Committee may at any time in its discretion cause payment to the American Legion Family Hospital Association to be suspended and report the matter to the next convention for its action.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN

Amendments

Section 1. This constitution may be amended at any convention by the vote of a majority of the total authorized representation, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been read at such convention at least twelve hours before the vote thereon.

Sec. 2. Insofar as this constitution may at any time be in conflict with the provisions of the National Constitution, the latter shall prevail.

BY-LAWS

DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA

THE AMERICAN LEGION

ADMINISTRATOR

1. The Department Commander shall be the executive head of the Minnesota Department, with full power to enforce the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws and will of the State Convention. The Commander shall preside over all meetings of the Department, in Convention and meetings of the Executive Committee, and perform such other duties as custom and parliamentary uses require. The Commander shall appoint all necessary committees, except such as are otherwise provided for by the Department Constitution.

2. The Department Vice Commanders shall act as representatives of the Department Commander on all matters referred to them and shall, at the Commander's request, preside over Conventions or meetings of the Executive Committee and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

3. The Department Adjutant shall keep a record of all activities of the Department and Conventions and meetings of all Executive Committee. The Adjutant shall at each regular Convention and meeting of the Executive Committee, read the minutes of the preceding meeting and make such corrections as may be directed unless by a majority vote of the Delegates or Executive Committee, the reading shall be dispensed with. The Adjutant shall have the proceedings of each annual convention prepared and kept in permanent record. The Adjutant shall cause notice to be given of all meetings of Department or Executive Committee. The Adjutant shall keep a record of the membership of the local Posts. He shall collect all annual dues and pay the same to the Department Treasurer, taking a receipt therefor. The Adjutant is charged with the administration of the Department Headquarters, subject to the directions of the Commander or Executive Committee, and shall perform such other duties as the Executive Committee may direct. The Adjutant shall engage in no other occupation or profession during his term of office.

4. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the Department, and shall deposit the same in its name in such bank or banks as the Executive Committee shall designate. The Treasurer shall present his books for inspection at any meeting of the Executive Committee or the Convention upon demand of any Delegate or member of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall give bond to the Department in such sum as the Executive Committee shall direct.

5. The Judge Advocate shall perform such duties as may be required by the Commander or Executive Committee and shall act in an advisory capacity to the officers and committees of the Department.

5A. The Department Service Officer shall have charge and

direction of all rehabilitation and service arising in the Department and shall be the official advisor of all District and Post Service Officers. The Department Service Officer shall perform such other service and rehabilitation duties as may be required by a Department Convention or the Department Rehabilitation Committee. The Department Service Officer shall prepare an annual report of the activities of his office, together with recommendations which shall be printed and distributed to all department officers and posts in such manner as the Department Rehabilitation Committee may determine.

5B. The Sergeant at Arms shall perform such duties as may be required by the Commander or the Executive Committee.

5C. Members of the Department and national Standing Committees shall be ex-officio members of the similar convention committees.

DISCIPLINE

6. Each Post of The American Legion shall be the judge of its own membership, subject to the restrictions of the National and Department Constitutions and By-Laws.

6A. Members may be expelled from The American Legion only upon a proper showing of cause and upon one or more of the following grounds, vis.: disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty and conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion. All charges must be made under oath, in writing by the accusers, and no member in good standing shall lose the membership until given a fair trial after due notice before the Post in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Department Executive Committee.

6B. All questions affecting the election, eligibility and conduct of the national executive committeeman, or of the alternate, or of department officers or members of the Department Executive Committee, shall be referred to and determined by the Department Executive Committee. All questions concerning the election, eligibility and conduct of Post or District officers or members of Post or District Executive Committees, shall be referred to and determined by the Executive Committee of the Post or District involved, which shall be the final authority thereon.

RULES

7. Any mandate adopted by convention action shall not be changed during the year of its adoption and it shall continue to govern the state policy of the department unless changed by convention action.

7A. Any mandate of the Department or Executive Committee, which establishes a policy of continuing nature and has the effect of governing the actions of the department, shall be set forth in a pamphlet which shall be supplemental to the Constitution and By-Laws and which shall be part of the governing rules and regulations of the department.

7B. The policy mandate pamphlet shall be kept up to date and changed as the mandates are changed.

RULES OF ORDER

8. At all Department Conventions and meetings of the Executive Committee, Robert's Rules of Order, revised 1915 edition, shall govern except when special rules shall be adopted by the convention or meeting, or wherein the same (Robert's Rules of Order) conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws.

AMENDMENTS

9. Amendments to these By-Laws may be made at any Convention by the vote of a majority of the delegates present, providing there is a quorum.

MANDATES

AMERICANISM

- 1924 Oppose Communism and Communist activities.
- 1946 In order to assist in safeguarding the ideals for which we fought, we place renewed and increased emphasis on:
1. Education of our youth, stressing study of our Constitution, especially the Bill of Rights, our great heritage, and the responsibility which citizens of a great Democracy need assume.
 2. Adult education, with special emphasis on the discussion of issues through such media as forums. Emphasis should also be placed upon an intelligent exercise of the right of suffrage.
 3. Appropriate recognition of our holidays.
 4. Increased emphasis placed upon significance of school awards and school oratoricals.
- 1952 That we actively work to see that all citizens exercise their voting privilege.
- 1956 That members of The American Legion exert appropriate efforts to preserve law and order in their respective communities and to continue to implement the provisions of the Preamble to our Constitution.
- 1962 That we join with other Veterans Organizations in celebrating May 1st as Loyalty Day.
- 1967 That the State Oratorical contest be held in one location for all ten districts as has been done in the past, with the preliminaries held in the morning and with the finals held in the afternoon.
- 1970 That we oppose the use of publicly owned and tax supported facilities by any group dedicated to the violent overthrow of our government.
- 1976 Oppose lowering of requirements for an honorable discharge.
- 1977 The Department of Minnesota set up the necessary programs to promote and encourage the statewide observance of Flag Day.
- 1979 That a scholarship known as the Norm Arveron Memorial Legion Boys State Scholarship be established and to be awarded to the Boys State Governor in an amount equal to the annual interest on \$3,000.00 but not to exceed \$250.00
- 1981 That the Department establish a Veterans Hospital/Veterans Home Continued Nursing Education Grant Program.
- 1982 Encourage all posts to actively promote life saving CPR training within their communities.
- 1982 That District Oratorical Contest Chairmen and Post Chairmen be advised in advance as to when contest materials are to be forwarded to local high schools.
- 1985 That the present Sub-Committees on American Education Week and on Education and Scholarships be combined into one Sub-Committee entitled the Education Sub-Committee to consist of a chairman, vice chairman and one member of the Standing Americanism Committee.
- 1989 Authorizes the awarding of additional scholarships from

- the "Norm Arveson Memorial Legion Boys State" scholarship fund.
- 1989 Increase scholarship awards for the Department Oratorical Contest - 1st Place \$1,200.00; 2nd Place \$900.00; 3rd Place \$700.00; 4th Place \$500.00.
- 1989 Support a Constitutional Amendment imposing penalties for the desecration of the United States Flag.
- 1990 Reaffirms support of the constitutional amendment on Flag desecration.
- 1991 That the Howard Immel Scholarship Fund be made available to any veteran, spouse, or children of veterans, and that they be eligible to apply for the scholarship grant, regardless of age, to further their education.
- 1991 That scholarships under "The American Legion Memorial Scholarship Fund" be opened to "veteran and spouse of a veteran".
- 1992 That The American Legion initiate efforts to return Memorial Day to the traditional date of May 30th, that Memorial Day be set aside in memory of our war dead, and appropriate ceremonies shall be held on that date.
- 1993 Support Congressional action to ensure English is the official language and support schools to assist non-English speaking citizens learn the English language.
- 1993 Americanism Committee is authorized to assemble District Americanism Chairmen to the annual Fall organizational meeting to review programs and set priorities and the Department Americanism Committee Chairman be permitted to pay mileage and per diem from the Americanism Committee Budget.
- 1994 Requires Americanism Committee to contact State School Board and Independent School Districts requesting that they follow existing mandates regarding patriotic exercises, education, and display of the flag.
- 1994 Oppose performance of the National Anthem in disrespectful ways.
- 1994 Initial selection process for Scout of the Year is to be conducted by the District Selection Committee and forwarded to the Department Boy Scout Committee for final selection.
- 1995 Urge each Post to take active part in promoting a "Keep Minnesota Clean and Scenic" chapter in its community. (1965 Energy and Conservation Mandate moved to Community Service, an Americanism sub-committee.)
- 1996 Support constitutional amendment on flag protection.
- 2005 The Community Service program will recognize Legion Posts in the Department of Minnesota for services performed. The categories for awards will be changed and plaques will be given to the Posts in the following manner:
- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Category I | 0-100 Members |
| Category II | 101-250 Members |
| Category III | 251-700 Members |
| Category IV | 701 Plus Members |
- 2008 Recommend Legionville Board conduct capital fundraising project before attempting to sell land.
- 2010 That the Oratorical Contest be held on the District Level before December 31st of each year and the Department

Contest no later than January 31st of the following year. (Repeals Mandate of 1989.)

- 2012 We establish a Junior Law Cadet Program using guidelines from the National Organization to be administered by the Americanism Committee and one member of the Americanism Standing Committee to be the program chair.
- 2015 I. That the following shall constitute at the date hereof the trophies of the Department available for presenting to Posts of the Department for outstanding Post activities: Trophies to remain in Department Headquarters, and in lieu thereof, plaques given for permanent possession.
- * Lindell Community Service Bell - to the Post for the most outstanding single piece of community service during the year.
 - * Frank J. Ring Boy Scout Trophy - to the Post with the most outstanding Boy Scout program during the year.
 - * Levi M. Hall School Patrol Trophy - to the Post for the most outstanding school patrol activity.
 - * Joseph W. Finley Trophy - to the Post with the most outstanding all-around program of activities.
 - * Hanson Education Trophy - to the Post contributing most to the advancement of education.
 - * Americanism Trophy - to the Post with the most outstanding Americanism program.
- Said plaques shall be presented each year at the Department Convention on an annual basis and the eligibility of the recipient for such plaques shall be determined by the committee.
- II. That no trophy or award to be presented by the Department shall be accepted from any donor unless the acceptance thereof is authorized by the Department Executive Committee and only on the express condition that the purpose and all conditions pertaining to the award may be changed from time to time at the sole discretion of the Department Executive Committee upon recommendation of the committee.
- III. That the mandates contained in this said resolution, upon adoption, shall supersede all other mandates pertaining to this subject, adopted by prior Conventions and all other resolutions pertaining to the respective trophies except as they may further explain the subject matter and purpose of the awards and trophies accepted by the Department prior hereto.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- 1925 Securing of State and National legislation for the protection of all children where needed.
- 1925 Support of all approved and recognized organizations working for the proper care and education of all children.
- 1925 Standing Department, District and Post Children and Youth Committees.
- 1931 In Children and Youth direct relief our policy shall be:
1. Work with Auxiliary and local authorities.

2. Favor return of non-resident cases by local authorities.
 3. Favor furnishing of only necessary aid.
 4. In emergency cases, apply through the Department for State and/or National aid.
- 1932 The Children and Youth Committee shall have one member from each District with the Chairman appointed by the Department Commander.
- 1934 That every Post have a Children and Youth Officer and file his name with Department Headquarters. Appoint Children and Youth Officer on a continuous basis rather than annual.
- 1934 Favor cooperation with other organizations on Children and Youth program in Legislature.
- 1934 The Children and Youth program shall be part of the Department's Annual Fall Conferences.
- 1938 Urge that facilities for delinquent children be kept separate from facilities for adult criminals.
- 1952 That we favor adoption of a uniform county system of relief in Minnesota.
- 1957 That the activities and programs of The American Legion Children and Youth be started, presented and developed in the early fall and winter months.
- 1957 That we support the Minnesota youth Firearms Training Programs at the Department, District and Post level.
- 1958 Urge that the Finance Committee allocate sufficient funds annually to pay per diem and travel expenses of District representatives of the Department Children and Youth Committee attending meetings.
- 1960 The Legion policy shall be one of cooperation with County Welfare Boards.
- 1960 Favor increasing facilities for care of the mentally retarded, with sufficient funds provided to carry on the program.
- 1960 That Post Children and Youth Officers keep a record of their activities and turn in a report to District Chairmen not later than May 1st.
- 1960 Urge that every Post Children and Youth Officer keep the Post members informed regarding the approved American Legion Children and Youth program and that special emphasis be placed on Children and Youth activities during Children and Youth month (April).
- 1960 That the Legion urge schools to provide more adequate counseling and guidance programs and that cumulative records be kept.
- 1960 That the Children and Youth Standing Committee of the Department of Minnesota have a regularly appointed vice chairman.
- 1960 Urge that the Armed Services provide adequate medical services to wives and children of enlisted personnel both on and out-patient and in-patient basis.
- 1964 That the Department of Veterans Affairs be granted sufficient appropriations to fully take care of the need and dependent children of veterans in Minnesota and the administration of such funds.
- 1982 Support legislation enabling parents to receive help in locating abducted children.
- 1995 Urge that the definition of "child" in all cases of assistance

- in The American Legion, be amended to read, "age 18."
- 2015 I. That the following shall constitute at the date hereof the trophies of the Department available for presenting to Posts of the Department for outstanding Post activities: Trophies to remain in Department Headquarters, and in lieu thereof, plaques given for permanent possession.
- * Lloyd Grossnickle Memorial Award - to the Post with the most outstanding Children and Youth project. Said plaque shall be presented each year at the Department Convention on an annual basis and the eligibility of the recipient for such plaques shall be determined by the committee.
- II. That no trophy or award to be presented by the Department shall be accepted from any donor unless the acceptance thereof is authorized by the Department Executive Committee and only on the express condition that the purpose and all conditions pertaining to the award may be changed from time to time at the sole discretion of the Department Executive Committee upon recommendation of the committee.
- III. That the mandates contained in this said resolution, upon adoption, shall supersede all other mandates pertaining to this subject, adopted by prior Conventions and all other resolutions pertaining to the respective trophies except as they may further explain the subject matter and purpose of the awards and trophies accepted by the Department prior hereto.

EMPLOYMENT

- 1956 Urge that we participate annually in "NATIONAL EMPLOY THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED WEEK", as mandated by the 1948 Convention.
- 1956 Securing preference treatment for disabled and handicapped veterans, not only in governmental agencies, but by the private employers.
- 1960 That the Standing Employment Committee shall be increased to ten members to be appointed by each one of the ten District Commanders, to serve a minimum period of not less than two years.
- 1961 Oppose plan of General Services Administration to replace employment of veterans and widows of veterans in its janitorial work with a janitorial service.
- 1963 Oppose widespread discrimination in employment on the basis of age.
- 1971 Support adequate funding to successfully carry out the "Jobs for Veterans" program of the United States.
- 1972 Endorse the re-employment rights program and its administration by the Office of Veterans Re-Employment Rights, Labor Management Services Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.
- 1976 Oppose efforts by any Federal Department, Agency, Board or Commission to seek exemption from the application of the veterans Preference Act of 1944, as amended.
- 1976 Support the formation of a Minnesota Veterans

- Employment Task Force.
- 1980 Urge the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program be continued at its present level by the Department of Labor.
- 1981 That the Department opposes any position cuts and grants to states which would reduce employment counseling services to veterans.
- 1981 Endorse a policy of individual veterans taking an active part in political campaigns on behalf of those candidates who have demonstrated support for programs endorsed by veterans. (1972 Rehabilitation Mandate transferred to Employment.)
- 1981 Urge than all commissions and committees of The American Legion include Vietnam and Korean veterans where possible. (1972 Rehabilitation Mandate transferred to Employment.)
- 1982 Urge United States Congress to enact legislation restoring unemployment compensation benefits to honorably discharged veterans who decline to re-enlist.
- 1983 Oppose any attempt to contract for services to circumvent Veterans Employment Preference.
- 1985 Support an Amendment to Title 38, Section 30, of the U.S. Code (Veterans Education Assistance Act of 1984) to include apprenticeship and on the job training.
- 1986 Support a "Buy American" movement.
- 1989 Oppose the use by the U.S. Postal Service of the system termed OPEX and urge legislature to prohibit the Service from evading the Veterans Preference Act.
- 1989 Support legislation increasing funding of the State Employment Security Agencies, a percentage of which to be for grants to states having aggressive veterans employment and training programs.
- 1989 Oppose attempt to transfer the Veterans Employment and Training Service from the Department of Labor to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 1992 Demand that Congress take necessary action to restore custodial jobs identified by the General Services Administration for the State of Minnesota to terminate contract services.
- 1995 Urge that The American Legion oppose discrimination by the State of Minnesota against military retirees seeking employment and seeks the repeal of this discriminating regulation.
- 1996 Oppose practice of State of Minnesota which does not allow preference points to retired military veterans.

ENERGY AND CONSERVATION

- 1935 That the Department Conservation Committee shall codify and keep up to date the Conservation Program and the codification.
- 1947 Urge enforcement of anti-pollution laws.
- 1954 Support anti-litter and anti-vandalism campaigns.
- 1958 The American Legion continues its wholehearted support for the preservation of our wilderness canoe area.
- 1960 That each Post and District shall appoint a Conservation Chairman.

- 1960 That Department Headquarters shall provide on its forms of report space for reporting the appointment of District Conservation Chairmen and also shall provide such district chairmen with forms for a report of activities.
- 1961 The Department continue to actively pursue its legislative activities to advance the proper use, development and protection of our God-given resources.
- 1961 That each Post be urged to assist or augment firearms safety training programs in their community.
- 1966 Support those agencies of the city, state and federal governments in their drive to clean up the problem of pollution.
- 1967 We go on record as supporting the following programs:
1. Provide more waterfowl feeding and resting areas.
 2. That the State of Minnesota provide more access to lakes.
 3. The Wetland Acquisition Program.
- 1972 Urge the continuance and acceleration by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources of its "Save the Minnesota Wetlands" program.
- 1976 Oppose dumping of raw sewage at any place within the State of Minnesota.
- 1976 That money received from hunting and fishing licenses revert to the Department of Conservation rather than the general fund of the State of Minnesota.
- 1977 Oppose the mining or exploitation of Minnesota's peat bogs.
- 1979 Urge continuation with proper safeguards of the development of nuclear power plants.
- 1981 Change title from "Conservation and Environmental Preservation" to "Energy and Conservation".
- 1986 Support an expedited and expanded effort by the United States Government to bring the problem of "acid rain" under control.
- 1987 (Same as 1986).
- 1988 Urge establishment of National Committee on Conservation of Natural Resources by the National American Legion.
- 1989 Support substantial expansion by the Federal Government of incentives to industry to develop alternative energy sources.
- 1991 Support review and overhaul of United States Energy Program by Federal Government.
- 2015 I. That the following shall constitute at the date hereof the trophies of the Department available for presenting to Posts of the Department for outstanding Post activities: Trophies to remain in Department Headquarters, and in lieu thereof, plaques given for permanent possession.
- * Stafford King Conservationist of the Year Trophy - to the Post or Individual with the most outstanding conservation program.
- Said plaque shall be presented each year at the Department Convention on an annual basis and the eligibility of the recipient for such plaques shall be determined by the committee.
- II. That no trophy or award to be presented by the Department

shall be accepted from any donor unless the acceptance thereof is authorized by the Department Executive Committee and only on the express condition that the purpose and all conditions pertaining to the award may be changed from time to time at the sole discretion of the Department Executive Committee upon recommendation of the committee.

- III. That the mandates contained in this said resolution, upon adoption, shall supersede all other mandates pertaining to this subject, adopted by prior Conventions and all other resolutions pertaining to the respective trophies except as they may further explain the subject matter and purpose of the awards and trophies accepted by the Department prior hereto.

FINANCE

- 1991 That Department dues, effective 1993, shall be \$7.75, including The Minnesota Legionnaire and the American Legion Hospital Association.
- 2006 Dues increased by \$3, plus any increase approved by National, effective 2008 membership year.
- 2008 Department shall not charge administrative fees for administering programs, corporations, foundations, or trusts.

LEGISLATIVE

- 1953 That the Veterans Service Building on the State Capital area be completed under the provisions of the act of 1945 and its use be confined to veterans activities.
- 1970 Support legislation to authorize commissary and Post Exchange privileges for widows of veterans who died of service-connected causes.
- 1970 Oppose any reorganization plan designed to abolish the Department of Veterans Affairs or to transfer the Minnesota Veterans' Home to any agency except the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 1971 That the Department exert all possible influence to maintain the Direct Home Loan Program of the U.S. Government.
- 1971 Reaffirm Department's position on the independent operation of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the management of the Minnesota Veterans' Home.
- 1971 Oppose any and all proposals to weaken or diminish the rights guaranteed by the U.S. Veterans preference act of 1944.
- 1976 Support legislation to eliminate the necessity of listing veterans compensation and pension payments as income in determining the Homestead Credit for Minnesota tax purposes.
- 1979 Urge establishment of a suitable memorial for Minnesota veterans in the Auditorium Hall at Arlington National Cemetery.
- 1979 Urge reduction of postage rates for non-profit organizations in the amount equal to 50% of regular rates.
- 1979 Urge exemption of non-profit fraternal and patriotic organ-

- izations from the applications of the U.S. Copyright Laws as they apply to performance of musical works.
- 1979 Oppose any legislation which would restore citizenship to those who voluntarily renounced it in opposition to the Vietnam War.
- 1979 Oppose any attempt to transfer the costs of military retired pay from the defense budget to any other agency.
- 1979 Oppose any legislation which would label non-profit and charitable organizations as a lobbying organization.
- 1979 Oppose removing the restriction which denies benefits to service personnel in desertion for 180 or more consecutive days.
- 1979 Urge legislation to restore Memorial Day to May 30.
- 1980 Support any legislation on providing benefits to Vietnam Veterans consistent with those given to all previous returning war veterans.
- 1981 That the Department opposes elimination of two and three year nurses training programs and the Practical Nurses Training Courses.
- 1981 That the Department supports reinstatement of the G.I. Loan Program.
- 1981 That the American Legion, Department of Minnesota, initiate an organization of federally chartered veterans' organizations to serve as a "clearing house" for convention mandates and legislative matters.
- 1982 That Minnesota Legionnaire print roll call votes of the Minnesota Legislature which have a substantial bearing on members of The American Legion.
- 1982 Oppose any legislation giving unemployment benefits to dishonorably discharged veterans.
- 1982 Urge stiffer penalties for convicted offenders and assistance monetary and spiritual, to innocent victims of crime.
- 1983 Support legislation to provide funds for the Veterans Down Payment Assistance Program.
- 1983 Oppose any action by Congress on the Executive Branch to abolish the veterans Administration or re-assign its programs to any agency of the United States Government.
- 1983 Urge the National Rehabilitation and the National Legislative Commission to prepare and pursue legislation to reinstate the G.I. Home Loan Program.
- 1984 Support extension of benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs to those members of the Armed Forces who served in Lebanon, Grenada and other hostile actions where Armed Forces of the United States are deployed.
- 1984 Support legislation authorizing the purchase of existing vacant hospitals and nursing homes by the Veterans Administration for use as Veterans nursing care facilities.
- 1985 That the mandates of 1970 and 1974 governing the operation of the Department Legislative Standing Committee be repealed and the following policies and procedures shall govern the Committee:
1. That the incoming commander appoint a standing committee of four and designate the chairman.
 2. At the earliest possible time following the appointment of the Standing Committee he shall meet with them for the purpose of reviewing all mandates and resolutions requir-

ing legislative action and instructing the committee on his administration's policy on the most important procedure to accomplish the Legislative Program of The American Legion on the Department and National Level.

3. That the Standing Legislative Committee continue on a year-around active status.

4. That each post and district commander be directed to appoint a legislative chairman and instruct him in his duties and report the name and address and telephone number to Department Headquarters.

5. That the Department Auxiliary, its officers and its unit officers and members, be invited to become active supporters and workers in the American Legion Legislative Program.

6. That the legislative chairman of each district be called to meet by the Department Legislative Chairman at times and places to be determined by him for the purpose of further study and instruction of the program.

7. That as soon as possible an outline of The American Legion Legislative program be transmitted to the Governor and each member of the Legislature of Minnesota.

8. That the committee activities be expanded to include a Legislative educational program through a mail bulletin letter service to the post, county and district level and by the chairman appearing at as many meetings as possible to deliver a message to the end that all Legionnaires and veterans of Minnesota become familiar with all phases of our legislative program.

9. Our public relations in each district is important. We urge each Post, County and District Commander and legislative chairman to meet with individual members of the legislature whenever possible to inform each member of our program.

10. That the Department Legislative Chairman, as soon after his appointment as possible, arrange a meeting with the Department Adjutant for the purpose of information on cost of the activities of his committee operations. He shall prepare an itemized budget and appear before the Department Finance Committee for a hearing on each budget item. When approval of the budget has been granted, he shall be authorized to proceed with his program. He shall be responsible to the Department Finance Committee, the Department Commander and the Department Executive Committee for proper expenditures under each approved budget item. He shall present testimony at legislative hearings or before any committee on bills of interest to The American Legion and veterans of Minnesota.

1986 Establish a working liaison with other veterans groups and members relative to pending legislation.

1986 Support legislation to restore the credit a retired military member is allowed on his income tax return for the first \$11,000.00 of retirement income.

1987 Oppose abolition of State Gambling Commission.

1987 Oppose the abolition of the Department of Veterans Affairs

- or to transfer its authority to any other Department or Agency of the State of Minnesota.
- 1987 Urge the allocation of a portion of the Charitable Gambling Tax to the Department of Veterans Affairs for job training and such other needed veterans assistance as determined by the Commissioner.
- 1988 Oppose all attempts by groups or governmental authorities to acquire Big Marine Camp.
- 1988 Urge legislators to allow a specified percentage of Charitable Gambling receipts to be used for buildings and groups upkeep and improvements.
- 1988 Urge that monies received from the settlement of Agent Orange Class be excluded from income for the purposes of receiving public assistance.
- 1989 Urge establishment of three newly constructed veteran nursing homes no later than fiscal year 1991-92 consisting of at least 60 beds in Southwest Minnesota, at least 120 beds in Northwest Minnesota, and at least 120 beds in Central Minnesota, and with reasonable access to a Veterans Administration Medical Center.
- 1991 Urge legislation providing equal rights and benefits to veterans organization facilities as enjoyed by the Minnesota Lottery and eliminating unsold pull tab cards tax and prize receipt forms.
- 1991 Request the Minnesota State Legislature to memorialize the U.S. Congress to amend the United States Constitution to prohibit flag desecration.
- 1992 Reaffirm our support for proper respect for the Flag and prohibit flag desecration.
- 1992 Support legislation to allow use of charitable gambling funds for blood donor programs.
- 1992 Urge benefits for veterans and their survivors who suffer from diseases attributable to radiation involved in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- 1992 Request the Minnesota Legislature and the Governor to support the programs of the Department Affairs by appropriating additional funds to the department to replace all positions to a level of the 1985 staffing.
- 1993 Oppose transfer of county Veterans Service Office to the Department of Human Services.
- 1993 Urge that the Legislature of the State of Minnesota pass a law that would put the University of Minnesota under the Veterans Preference Act.
- 1993 Support for the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery near Little Falls.
- 1994 Support legislation to exclude American Legion Baseball from gaming statute.
- 1994 The Minnesota Legionnaire shall report votes of the Minnesota Congressional Delegation on the Flag Desecration Amendment.
- 1995 Support legislation to designate the Minnesota VA Network as a pilot program for health care reform which would allow the Minnesota VA Network to improve quality and function like other health care providers in the community.
- 1995 Support VAMCs in being given the authorization to bill

- Medicare, Medicaid and other third party payers, including HMOs for the costs of providing medical services to veterans, without losing current federal funding for mandatory care.
- 1995 Urge passage of Senate Resolution No. 256 and Companion Resolution No. 945 in the House of Representatives as they pertain to the Missing Persons Act of 1942.
- 1995 Support House Representatives Resolution No. 21 to provide for changes needed in the POW/MIA controversy.
- 1995 Support a change in state law that would provide a state tax of 2% on pull tab retail sales only and become a part of the 1996 Legislative Program.
- 2007 Support legislative initiative to establish Minnesota veterans bonus for Minnesota residents serving in the war on terrorism in distant lands.
- 2009 Encourage proclamation by Governor and chief executives of municipalities to proclaim September 16 each year as American Legion Day.

MEMBERSHIP

- 1929 That a Director of Membership be appointed by the Department Commander.
- 1931 That each District shall have at least two membership Rallies per year.
- 1935 Urge that we continue the Membership Derby and that the Department supply suitable Trophies thereof.
- 1935 That we favor County Organization.
- 1946 That the Fall Conference resume the schools for the new Adjutants and Commanders.
- 1954 That the Membership team of a Department Membership Director and the Department Vice Commanders be continued.
- 1957 That each District institute a Post Commander and Adjutant School of Instruction in conducting Post meetings and activities, leadership for said school to be supplied by the Department of Minnesota in conjunction with the respective Districts and to be held in September; or whenever possible.
- 1976 That direct dues billing become mandatory for all posts in the Department of Minnesota beginning with the 1978 Legion year.
- 1981 That meetings or schools of instructions for Post Officers be held annually in each District following the Department Convention and prior to the convening of the National Convention.
- 1984 Establishing a three member committee to review Post Charter cancellations, revitalization of current posts, and establishment of new posts. Said committee to be appointed by the 1984-85 Department Commander for a one year term, for a two year term, and for a three year term; thereafter each member to be appointed for a three year term. The Department Commander, Adjutant and Membership Director be to ex-officio members, with the latter to serve as Chairman.

- 1985 That the name of the Post Charter Committee be changed to "Post Development Committee", the chairman to be elected from the appointed members and the Department Membership Director, Department Commander and Department Adjutant to remain EX-OFFICIO members without vote.
- 1985 That parade and hall positions by Districts shall be in order of going overtop on membership totals, except the Host District.
- 1985 That the District Commander shall have power to adjust Post goals.
- 1988 Urge preparation of a special certificate by the National Organization recognizing 70 years of continuous membership.
- 1990 That commencing with the 1991 Legion year, the Post Development Committee shall consist of five members appointed by the Department Commander alternately from Districts 1 or 3; Districts 2 or 7; Districts 4 or 5; Districts 6 or 9; Districts 8 or 10. In 1991 appointments shall be for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. The 1 and 2 year appointments to be those presently serving those terms on the existing Committee. Thereafter, the appointment shall be for a period of 5 years. The Department Commander, Adjutant, Membership Director and Assistant Adjutant shall be Ex-Officio members.
- 1995 That the Department participate in a Pilot Program of the National Organization in which members at participating Posts will receive renewal notices with the option to pay their dues to the Posts by using all acceptable credit cards and the Posts process the credit card dues payments and send the completed cards and transmittals with a check to the Department.
- 2005 That the Department of Minnesota initiate a membership campaign of "Back to the Basics", working with the Department Vice Commanders, who will work with their respective District membership teams and involve Department and District Post Development Committees as needed.

NATIONAL SECURITY / FOREIGN RELATIONS

- 1919 Urge adoption and implementation of a Universal Military Training or Universal Service Act.
- 1948 That we oppose federalization of the National Guard, except in an instance of declared National emergency.
- 1951 That we support the Selective Service System and urge that Legionnaires, whenever possible, serve on Selective Service Boards.
- 1955 That we condemn all mutual defense treaties which authorize subjection of American citizens serving in the Armed Forces to the jurisdiction of foreign courts in foreign lands and we urge Congress to prevent this situation and to provide that in the future such citizens be tried under United States Military Tribunals for any offense committed in foreign lands thereby retaining for such American citizens their rights under the Constitution and

- Bill of Rights to preserve while they are serving in such foreign lands.
- 1956 That The American Legion encourage and aid the CAP by whatever means possible and where possible sponsor CAP Cadet Squadrons.
- 1967 That the Standing National Defense Committee, beginning with the year 1967-68, shall consist of five members; one member to be appointed for five years, one for four years, one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year; and thereafter in succeeding years, one member shall be appointed for a period of five years.
- 1969 That institutions of higher learning upgrade all ROTC programs and encourage participation in them by giving appropriate academic credit and by declaring that each participant may select military science as a minor area of concentration, should a minor be pre-requisite to graduation and that the Defense Department give preference in establishing new ROTC programs to those institutions agreeing to make the first two years compulsory, giving appropriate academic credit for participation, and allowing each such participant to select military science as his/her minor areas of concentrations, should a minor be pre-requisite to graduation.
- 1971 Support the following:
1. The Army be constantly modernized and maintained in sufficient quantity and quality to guarantee the security of the United States.
 2. We maintain a strong air striking force and air defense capable of meeting any threat to the security of this Nation. We support modernization and procurement of manned bombers, fighters and manned interceptors as major elements of our Nation's air power.
 3. We continue a full combat-ready Marine Corps with the appropriation of sufficient funds to maintain a strength of a least four divisions and three airwings, and that we fully support the administrative and operational application of the Marine Corps Division-Wing concept.
 4. The United States Navy be modernized and maintained as the most powerful and most versatile naval power, by supporting a naval building program to provide adequate ships of all types, including, but not limited to, amphibious ships, submarines, destroyers, cruisers, and aircraft carriers, with emphasis on nuclear propulsion for new combat ships.
 5. We urge Congress to continue to appropriate sufficient funds to maintain, and the Executive Branch to approve, the National Guard in sufficient strength to guarantee the national security of the United States.
 6. We reaffirm our support of a U.S. built enlarged and modern Merchant Marine as a vital element of defense, with adequate subsidies.
 7. We support strong and meaningful military services under their respective Secretaries.
 8. We advocate continued development of atomic and hydrogen weapons and the necessary testing of such weapons to achieve and preserve world leadership. The

successful development of an anti-missile requires continued testing of missiles until such a defensive weapon is a reality.

9. We support a policy of control and coordination of research and development, by the Secretary of Defense, that eliminates unnecessary duplication, but assures the benefits of constructive competition and experimentation of weapons appropriate to the missions of the military services; and we continue to support the Congressionally established basis roles and missions of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps as valuable stabilizing influences in defense organizations and as obstacles to unnecessary duplication and unnecessary expense.

10. We support an effort to increase our stores of conventional, simpler and cheaper weapons so as to keep the U.S. from being simply out-gunned.

- 1972 Urge every Legion Post to support the recruitment activities of the Armed Forces of their Community.
- 1977 Support strong and effective CIA and FBI organizations.
- 1977 Support continued military and other assistance to the Republic of Korea.
- 1980 That April of each year is hereby designated "Guard and Reserve Month" and that American Legion Posts provide recognition to members of the National Guard and Reserve during that month.
- 1981 That we support legislation or amendment to existing law requiring administrators and counselors of secondary schools to cooperate with recruitment for the Armed Forces of the United States of America.
- 1985 Support legislation defining the Act of Disclosure of Secret Material involving the Security of the Nation as Treason.
- 1986 Urge the Federal Government to use the U.S. Army to supplement the Border patrol to control our Country's border.
- 1986 Urge the expansion and continued effort to combat the flow of narcotics into the United States through the National Narcotic Border Interdiction System.
- 1987 That the committee's name shall be National Security/Foreign Relations Committee and to assume responsibility to keep our members informed and support the National Foreign Relations Committee.
- 1988 Urge restoration of cuts in the Federal Budget which would eliminate any ROTC units in the State of Minnesota.
- 1988 Support the National Disaster Medical System.
- 1989 Support continuation of fly-overs by the Minnesota National Guard at the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.
- 1989 Support effort for funding for remodeling and other space needs at the ROTC Armory at the University of Minnesota Campus.
- 1990 Urge United States Senate to pass legislation directing the heads of Federal Departments and Agencies to disclose information concerning United States personnel classified as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam Conflict.
- 1990 Support "Adopt-A-Guard" Program.

- 1991 Oppose any action jeopardizing the future of ROTC in Minnesota and encourage other organizations to participate in such opposition.
- 1992 Support for National Guard and urge that the Army National Guard strength be reduced no lower than 420,000 people.
- 1992 Support for Army Reserve and urge that the Army Reserve strength not be reduced below 296,000 people.
- 1992 Department National Security/Foreign Relations Committee is authorized to present five scholarships each year for Civil Air Patrol summer encampment.
- 1993 Urge U.S. Government to support and fund program to destroy international drug traffic.
- 1993 Urge U.S. Government to pursue policies preventing aggression by Iran.
- 1993 Urge U.S. Government to encourage Japan to follow equitable trading practices.
- 1993 Urge Administration to participate in U.N. Operations consistent with U.N. Charter and not place U.S. Forces under foreign command during U.N. Operations unless American national interests are at stake.
- 1993 Urge U.S. government to undertake specified actions regarding POW/MIAs.
- 1993 Support dissemination of information by Federal Government to POW/MIA families.
- 1994 Effective with the 1994-95 academic year, the annual individual ROTC Scholarship Award be increased from \$600 to \$750.
- 1997 Support Jr. ROTC Programs in urban areas.
- 2011 Support the Beyond The Yellow Ribbon program and urge each Post to promote the Beyond The Yellow Ribbon program in their towns, cities, and/or counties.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- 2015 I. That the following shall constitute at the date hereof the trophies of the Department available for presenting to Posts of the Department for outstanding Post activities: Trophies to remain in Department Headquarters, and in lieu thereof, plaques given for permanent possession.
 - * Public Relations and Publicity Trophy - to the Post in each of three membership categories: Posts with membership up to 250; 251-750; and 751 and over. Said plaques shall be presented each year at the Department Convention on an annual basis and the eligibility of the recipient for such plaques shall be determined by the committee.
- II. That no trophy or award to be presented by the Department shall be accepted from any donor unless the acceptance thereof is authorized by the Department Executive Committee and only on the express condition that the purpose and all conditions pertaining to the award may be changed from time to time at the sole discretion of the Department Executive Committee upon recommendation of the committee.
- III. That the mandates contained in this said resolution, upon

adoption, shall supersede all other mandates pertaining to this subject, adopted by prior Conventions and all other resolutions pertaining to the respective trophies except as they may further explain the subject matter and purpose of the awards and trophies accepted by the Department prior hereto.

RECREATION - SPORTS

- 1965 The Department Baseball Committee shall have the power to make such rules and regulations governing District and Department competition, as they shall deem necessary, not inconsistent with national rules.
- 1966 That the Department Golf Tournament be held annually on the second weekend in September, and that no District Golf Tournament conflict.
- 1996 Baseball Committee to elect Director from three candidates appointed to Committee by Department Commander; the two other appointees serve as Vice Directors of Division I and Division II; Director to determine which Vice Director will represent which Division; Baseball Committee to consist of the three members appointed by Department Commander and ten District Baseball Chairmen appointed or elected by each District; appointed members to have staggered three-year terms; Vice Directors/Director cannot concurrently also represent a District.

REHABILITATION

- 1932 That members of the National Rehabilitation Commission from Minnesota shall be ex-officio members of the Department Rehabilitation Committee.
- 1933 Favor hospitalization of all honorably discharged veterans who cannot reasonably pay.
- 1934 Rehabilitation Committee Statement of Policy: The Legion stands as advocating compensation solely for war disabilities and death, with hospitalization when required. It is a proponent for hospitalization in Federal hospitals for disabilities not service incurred, only when it is actually necessary and in cases where the veteran is unable to pay for care privately. It is a privilege granted to all citizens in private or public hospitals. The responsibility for medical care of the civilian group is in the community; the responsibility for the care of the veteran who fought for the whole people is vested in the Federal Government. The American Legion seeks to restore to productivity as far as possible, maimed and sickened bodies tolled off to do the fighting. The principle, with minor variations as to plan and procedure, has been America's policy since 1636. The Legion does not seek to place soldiers in a more elevated position than the honorable one they occupy in the hearts of the American people. It merely bends its efforts to restore levels, disturbed by war and its collaterals. It advocates adequate protection

for widows and orphans of deceased veterans only when these dependents are in need of such protection.

Beyond its position with respect to disabled veterans, the Legion adheres to the principle of universal service in times of war, contending that only thereby can inequalities of the burden of war be reduced as between those who served with the Armed Forces and those who served in civilian capacity.

We recognize further than no form of legislation can ever reduce the hardships of war or economic losses suffered by those called upon to defend the Nation in combat.

As to economic cost of war and the cost of war in human life and human suffering, there can be no comparison.

1. We approve the medical plan which now affords veterans of Minnesota the highest type of medicine provided any place in the nation.

2. We commend those officials who have given their united effort in making the medical plan so successful.

1936 Oppose regulations that allow a reduction or discontinuance of compensation without a thorough physical examination and investigation of the veteran's social and industrial history.

1943 Urge that every county have a Veterans County Service Officer and that in no way be connected with any welfare agency.

1944 Urge that arrangements be made between the Veterans Administration and the State Fish and Game Commission whereby both pheasant and venison dinners during the regular season be furnished our hospitalized veterans.

1944 That the Department have representation at the Memorial Day Exercises at the Fort Snelling Cemetery and that they place a suitable wreath at that time.

1946 Urge that the Veterans Administration pay ambulance costs where needed in an emergency.

1948 That the Department Rehabilitation Committee has the power to hire such employees as may be necessary and to recommend the salaries of such employees to the Finance Committee to obtain necessary funds.

1948 Urge that the Minnesota Soldiers Home be enlarged sufficiently so as to provide adequate domiciliary housing and care of Minnesota veterans.

1950 That we urge Posts, individual Legionnaires and relatives to adopt a program of visiting our hospitalized veterans.

1951 Urge that the maximum income limitation in allowance to widows be amended so as to allow the widow an exemption of the proceeds from any policy of insurance.

1951 Urge that the benefit of hospitalization now available to all veterans of all wars for non-service connected disabilities be retained.

1951 Urge that facilities for training doctors and nurses be increased so the supply can meet the demand without a decrease in quality.

1954 Urge that veterans be allowed to reinstate their Government Life Insurance at any time during their lifetime upon proof of insurability.

1955 That The American Legion earnestly request that the Fargo

and Sioux Falls Veterans Hospitals be operated at their peak of efficiency and that they be, at all times, provided with the best possible medical personnel and facilities and that the Legion does hereby serve notice that it will resist any and all attempts to curtail, in any way, the efficiency or extent of the operations of the Veterans Hospital of Fargo or Sioux Falls.

- 1955 That each Post Commander of this Department see to it that a competent Post Service Officer be appointed or elected; and that adequate funds be provided to the Service Officer to allow him to properly function and to attend Official Service Schools and Meetings.
- 1960 Urge each American Legion Post and Auxiliary Unit to give more publicity to the program of the American Legion Hospital Association.
- 1962 Support the various programs sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 1962 That the Department Commander and district Commanders adopt as a special program the requirement that each Post hold a joint Post and Auxiliary meeting at which time the Rehabilitation program will be explained by the Post Service Officer and the Unit Rehabilitation Chairman.
- 1963 Oppose the attempt by trend in the Veterans Administration toward any centralization or consolidation, which may impair its ability to perform its basic mission.
- 1964 Support payment of salaries of all Veterans Hospital personnel commensurate with that provided in private medicine.
- 1965 Oppose the proposed federal action to close Veterans Hospitals, Domiciliaries and Regional Offices.
- 1969 Oppose any reduction in the VA budget that would reduce the service or cash benefits to which the Veterans are now entitled.
- 1970 Support an expanded VA program of drug and alcohol treatment.
- 1976 Urge Congress to enact legislation that would exclude Social Security benefits in the computation of cost of living for the purpose of reducing present Veterans pensions.
- 1976 Oppose discontinuance of the appropriation for supplying Bronze Star Markers for the gravesite of deceased veterans.
- 1977 Support elimination of income limitations on Veterans and Widow Pensions after age 72.
- 1978 Urge restoration of Veterans Administration funding for medical research.
- 1978 Oppose reduction of active operating beds in VA hospitals.
- 1978 Oppose any plan whereby a National Health Insurance Program would infringe on the current VA hospital system.
- 1978 Urge enactment of legislation to provide annual increase in VA benefit payments based on the consumer price index.
- 1978 That we resist all efforts to eliminate benefits for travel expense, out-patient drug expense, and one time dental treatment by the Veterans Administration.
- 1978 Urge proper identification be erected in the War Memorial side of the Minnesota Veterans Service Building.

- 1980 Oppose any policy which might deprive veterans of necessary medical facilities.
- 1981 That the Department oppose any elimination of the Vets Center, DVOP, VICP and TTA programs.
- 1981 That the Department supports:
1. A 25% increase in all income limitations imposed by PL95-588.
 2. Amending the Social Security Act to provide for a 2% Veterans Adjustment Credit for every month served in the Armed Forces.
- 1982 Urge restoration of the \$300.00 burial allowance by the Veterans Administration.
- 1982 Urge support of the Disabled Veterans Recreation Inc. and the appointment by the Commander of two representatives to their organization.
- 1982 Support legislation to provide adequate funding by the United States government for construction or renovation of State Veterans Homes.
- 1983 Support the Veterans Administration comprehensive plan to expand geriatric and extended care capabilities for the aging veteran.
- 1983 Oppose "End of the Month" rule adopted by the Veterans Administration in computing overpayment of benefits.
- 1984 Support continued use of upright headstones at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.
- 1984 That the Standing Rehabilitation Committee shall act as a screening committee for the American Legion VAVS Representative and Deputy in Minnesota and the request for certification be made by the Director of Rehabilitation with the approval of the Department Commander.
- 1984 Urge the Veterans Administration Board of Veterans Appeals to increase the number of properly trained representatives.
- 1985 Oppose inclusion of incentive payments under the Incentive Therapy Program in determining non-service connected pensions and urge that 75% such income be excluded.
- 1985 Support amendment of existing statutes to permit military retirees to utilize Veterans Administrator Medical Centers for dental, prosthetic and sensory aids.
- 1985 Oppose reduction of personnel of the Department of Memorial Affairs.
- 1985 Support continuing research in the determination of the results of Agent Orange.
- 1985 Support legislation to amend Title 38, U.S. Code, to permit the Veterans Administration to provide benefits to veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces equal to those provided by the Dominion of Canada to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces residing in Canada.
- 1986 Support and urge the establishment of one or more additional Minnesota Veterans Homes outside the Metropolitan Area.
- 1986 Support legislation to provide that the pension rights of living war veterans and/or his dependent spouse or children be subject only to the same reduction for other income as now being applied to recipients of Social

- Security benefits.
- 1986 Oppose all forms of a means test for obtaining any type of medical care from a Veterans Administration medical facility.
- 1987 Urge the Legislature to appropriate sufficient funds during each session to provide an adequate supply of bronze grave markers.
- 1987 Take necessary action to expand the Hospital Home Care Program so that veterans living beyond a 30 minute radius of the Veterans Administration Medical Facility be provided the same care as those in the Metropolitan Area.
- 1987 Oppose charging deceased veteran's family for replacement of flat grave markers.
- 1987 That Third Party Reimbursement funds be directed to the VA Medical Center which provided the service to the veteran.
- 1987 Oppose taxation of any portion of waived VA overpayment.
- 1988 Urge the Veterans Administration to restore the eligibility requirements for VA Burial Allowance to what they were prior to 1980.
- 1988 Urge statutes be amended to include authority to grant service-connection rulings and VA benefits to all persons who are on TDRL status and who incur, upon responding to orders, an injury or disease while going to or from such place as ordered.
- 1988 Urge exemption from location of amounts of any debts owed to the VA, payment of which has been properly waived.
- 1989 Support adequate and sufficient health care for all veterans and other veterans benefits programs.
- 1990 Oppose "Means Testing" for medical treatment of service-connected disabled veterans.
- 1990 Support legislation calling for at least one Regional Office of the Veterans Administration in each state.
- 1990 Support current regulations or criteria for service connected disabilities by the Veterans Administration.
- 1990 Oppose elimination of the Vets Center DVOP programs.
- 1990 Urge the Governor of Minnesota to assign the coordinating programs for assisting homeless veterans.
- 1990 Support present system of determining dependency and indemnity compensation.
- 1990 Urge The American Legion National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission to develop a program to provide representation of veterans before the Court of Veterans Appeals.
- 1991 Urge Congress to pay retirees disability compensation in addition to retirement pay.
- 1991 Request Congress to reinstate non-service-connected pension with A&A benefits for veterans eligible for Medicaid.
- 1991 Urge Congress to reinstate the Presumption Law allowing veterans to be considered totally and permanently disabled for pension purposes at age 65.
- 1991 Support the County Veterans Service Officers and oppose eliminating or merging of services and personnel.
- 1991 Urge Congress to allow the Court of Veterans Appeal to

- award fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act.
- 1991 Urge Congress to increase estate ceiling limitation for veterans to receive VA benefits.
- 1991 Urge Department of Veterans Affairs to fund Post Traumatic Stress Disorder treatment at VA Medical Center.
- 1991 Urge that a VA Death Benefit be authorized for survivors of veterans under care of VA.
- 1992 Urge Congress to revise income limits for Veterans' Survivor Death Pension.
- 1992 Urge that VA Hospitals retain all Medicare and CHAMPUS payments.
- 1992 Support for continuation and appropriate budgets for Minnesota Veterans Homes.
- 1992 Urge Federal Government to allow VAMCs to retain all fees and funds collected for services.
- 1992 Urge the Governor and Legislature to exempt the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs from any proposed budget cuts.
- 1992 Support the Veterans Transitional Housing council to provide transitional housing for homeless veterans in Minnesota.
- 1993 Support for legislation that VA Hospitals be enabled to keep and use compensation received for services from third-party payors.
- 1993 Oppose proposals that Department of Veterans Affairs bill third party payors for treatment provided service-connected veterans for service related disabilities.
- 1997 Support continued presence of veteran's hospitals, equitable access to VA medical facilities, managed care, reduced catastrophic cap and the GI Bill of Health.
- 1997 Oppose consolidation of Minneapolis and St. Cloud VA Medical Centers.
- 1999 Support continued presence of veteran's hospitals, equitable access, managed care and the GI Health Plan.
- 1999 Take appropriate action to make Federal Employee's Health Benefits Program available to military retirees, veterans and dependents.
- 1999 Support raising VA's share of costs of care in state veterans homes.
- 2009 Urge legislature to reinstate support for Funeral Honors Program.
- 2010 That every Post in Minnesota have an American Legion recognition day on September 16.
- 2010 That we support the St. Cloud VAMC with respect to their position on their Highway and Golf Course issue.

RESOLUTIONS

- 1928 That members shall pay District dues to the Department when Department dues are paid and the Department shall send District dues to the District monthly.
- 1928 That we rebuke any member, not specifically authorized, who brings up the name of the Legion as favoring or not favoring any political partisan issue.
- 1931 That there shall be a 30-minute memorial service at each

- convention honoring those of us who have fallen since the end of the war.
- 1934 Recommend that every Post have a Children and Youth Officer.
- 1934 That Posts shall notify the Department on change of officers including Rehabilitation or Service Officer, Children and Youth Officer and Americanism Officer.
- 1936 That one week may be designated by the Department Commander and known as Hospital Association Week for Posts to conduct activities for benefits of our Hospital Association.
- 1949 That at least 15 days prior to the Department convention, the Department shall cause to be printed in The Minnesota Legionnaire the following information relative to all resolutions previously received by the Department of action at the Department Convention to-wit:
1. Number of each resolution.
 2. The District from which such resolution emanated.
 3. A brief descriptive title disclosing the subject matter thereof.
- 1949 That the Department shall contribute toward the delegates to National Conventions on the basis of two delegates for the first four thousand members or major fraction thereof in each District and one additional delegate for each additional four thousand members or major fraction thereof in each District plus the regular delegates-at-large.
- 1951 That we oppose this nation becoming at this time a member state in any form of world federation or world government.
- 1953 That the disposition of resolutions of the Department Convention be published in The Minnesota Legionnaire at such time as may be agreed upon by the Department Commander and the Editor of the publication.
- 1955 Recommend to all District Officers that some method be devised to stagger and group according to geographical locations, the time and place of District Conventions and Fall Rallies to make it possible for Department Officers to officially attend and give time to each one.
- 1955 That the Department of Minnesota Convention of The American Legion and its Auxiliary be held not earlier than July 5th.
- 1960 Urge full cooperation with the Red Cross Bloodmobile Program.
- 1960 Favor appointment of Public Relations Officers by all Posts.
- 1962 That all Chairmen of Department Standing Committees work with and through the various District chairmen of said standing Committees to facilitate and make more effective the Legion program.
- 1963 That the Department Rules Committee prepare at least 60 days prior to the Department Convention the proposed rules and that a copy thereof be forwarded to each Post and published in The Minnesota Legionnaire at least 30 days prior to said convention.
- 1967 That we are firmly against further registration of personal firearms at any government level.

- 1968 A. That all resolutions, calling for consideration by the Department Convention of The American Legion, should be supported by the identification of the individual, or group, originating the resolution and, also, by a written statement, or brief containing the supporting arguments in favor of the action sought, clearly establishing the material relevance of the subject to the purpose for which The American Legion was formed.
- B. That the Department Adjutant be directed to send a copy of this resolution, together with an appropriate covering letter, to all Post and District Commanders, the National Committeeman and the Chairmen of all Department committees annually, with the directive that every reasonable effort be made to reject such resolutions at the district level.
- 1969 That no admission to either the Department Convention or Fall Conference shall be permitted without registration excepting to such area as may be designated for general occupancy; and
- That the Sergeant at Arms, under the direction of the Department Commander, be directed to enforce this resolution.
- 1970 That from the 1971 dividend of the Insurance Trust, \$5,000 be set aside to establish a Legionnaire Insurance Trust Scholarship, under rules and regulations to be established.
- 1972 Oppose Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- 1973 That an outline of American Legion Programs and various deadlines to be observed should be issued to all Post Commanders following the post-convention meeting of the Department Executive Committee.
- 1974 Urge the national officers of 40 and 8 and The American Legion to align their annual meeting dates to related times and places.
- 1975 That the Fall Conference be held no later than November, beginning with 1976.
- 1975 That the Department of Minnesota of The American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their Auxiliaries take the necessary action to establish a joint statewide Poppy Day.
- 1976 Urge legislation to permit Club Liquor licenses in cities of the first class.
- 1976 Oppose unionization of the Armed Forces of the United States.
- 1976 Urge introduction of a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation be introduced in every secondary school.
- 1979 Urge that Arlington National Cemetery stop its practice of discrimination in its burial practices' relative to cremation.
- 1981 That we support the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp honoring all Medal of Honor recipients.
- 1981 That we support the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp honoring all veterans of the Spanish American War.
- 1981 That we support and assist the goals of the Military Historical Society of Minnesota.
- 1982 Urge each District and the Department to establish a POW/MIA Committee to assist in educating the public as

- to the plight of our fellow Americans unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.
- 1982 That our Contest program, as administered by the Contest Supervisory Committee, be continued in its entirety.
- 1983 Support location of VACO and OMB offices at Fort Snelling if the Veterans Administration decides to combine them.
- 1983 Oppose any action to eliminate the Chaplaincy Corps in the Armed Forces.
- 1983 Support the establishment of a National Korean Veterans Memorial.
- 1983 Oppose any attempt to remove religious programming from the airwaves.
- 1984 Support the plan of the Department of Defense for a permanent Pentagon corridor in honor of women in the military.
- 1985 Oppose any increase in the GI Home Loan Origination Fee.
- 1986 Support the building of a Memorial to the women of all branches of the Military Services.
- 1986 Support "Project Literacy U.S."
- 1987 Oppose consolidation of the Veterans Administration Regional Office Insurance in Minneapolis with Philadelphia.
- 1987 Urge that the English Language be established as the official language of the State of Minnesota.
- 1987 Support "Mature Driving" program conducted by the American Association of Retired Persons.
- 1989 Support the Second Chance for Life Foundation.
- 1991 Reaffirm our stand to increase efforts to influence government to effect release of POWs and account for MIAs.
- 1992 The Department Public Relations Committee be continued as a permanent committee.
- 1993 Spiritual Emphasis Committee established, to have its own Chairman, its own budget, and to consist of five members, including clergy and laity.
- 1993 Support policy to ban homosexuals from military services.
- 1994 The Review Committee on Minnesota Lawful Gambling Statutes and Rules is established to consist of a representative from each District, appointed annually by District Commander and to be funded by Finance Committee.
- 1994 Each District Delegation Chairman or Secretary will meet with Department Resolutions Assignment Committee at 9:00 A.M. on the first day of the Department Convention to be informed of Resolutions and receive copies.
- 1994 Policy enacted that no limited number of qualified personnel be restricted in serving on the Department Rehabilitation Committee.
- 1994 To take action with National Organization to implement a strong program to "Buy American".
- 1995 That the Department Post Development Committee be charged with the obligation to develop and administer a yearly statewide leadership training program, open to all Department of Minnesota Legionnaires, for the purpose of providing instruction in the basic policies and procedures of American Legion Post operations and functions of its

- officers.
- 1995 Urge the State of Minnesota to publish a handbook on the rules of bicycling in the State for the safety of all bicyclists.
- 2002 District Commander and Membership Director to identify two posts to benefit from post revitalization and develop a plan to assist.
- 2006 Support funding and purpose of National Eagle Center.
- 2006 Law and Order Committee reduced to three members.
- 2006 Public Relations Committee reduced to three members
- 2006 Energy and Conservation Committee reduced to two members.
- 2006 Spiritual Emphasis Committee eliminated.
- 2007 Urge President and Congress to name Rochester Veterans Outpatient Clinic the Marine Corporal Charles “Chuck” Lindberg Clinic.
- 2007 Legionnaires limited to serving in only one of the appointed positions by Commander including Department Committees and Boards of all corporations and Foundations which are Department programs. NEC, Alternate NEC, Commander, Adjutant, Treasurer, and Judge Advocate allowed to serve on Committees as required by By-Laws.
- 2007 Legionnaire Insurance Trust Committee restored to three members, appointed by Commander for three-year terms (repeals 2006 Resolution).
- 2008 Commander, Adjutant, and Vice Commanders serve as Committee to review applications and amounts awarded and report to Convention annually concerning Disaster Relief Fund.
- 2011 The Department of Minnesota recognizes The American Legion Riders as a program of The American Legion.
- 2014 That any National Convention Delegate positions unfilled at the District Convention, and remaining unfilled at the close of the Department Convention Friday session, shall be added to the number of Department Delegates At Large to be elected by that year’s Department Convention.
- 2016 Legionnaires are limited to serving in only one of the appointed positions by Commander including Department committees and boards of all corporations and Foundations which are Department programs. This limitation does not apply to ad hoc committees or committees of short duration. NEC, Alternate NEC, Commander, Adjutant, Treasurer, and Judge Advocate allowed to serve on Committees as required by By-Laws. (clarifies mandate from 2007)

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- 2011 That a Department of Minnesota Strategic Planning Committee be established as a standing committee and that that committee shall consist of 5 members, each appointed by the Commander for a 5 year term, with the exception of the initial appointments which shall be one appointment for one year, one appointment for two years, one appointment for three years, one appointment for four years, and one appointment for five years.

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