

## **RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CONVENTION**

1. Resolutions shall be submitted in the proper form [as follow] and shall be numbered for identification as provided by the Department Adjutant.
2. Resolutions shall be approved by a Post, the Department Executive Committee, or any standing or Special Committee of the Convention. Resolutions submitted in advance of the Convention by Posts, shall be filed with the Department Adjutant who shall refer them to the Convention Resolutions Committee's initial meeting for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate Standing Convention Committee. Resolutions emanating from a Post shall be forwarded to the Department Adjutant — to be in his hands two days prior to the opening session of the Department Convention.
3. Resolutions which call for an amendment to the Constitution of The American Legion Department of South Dakota must be submitted to the Department Adjutant in the proper form and in time to ensure that they can be screened by the Department Internal Affairs Commission in time to allow Internal Affairs Commission to make a recommendation for approval or disapproval and for the Department Adjutant to distribute copies of all such resolutions to all Posts within the Department at least 30 days to the convening of the Department Convention.
4. Resolutions which call for an amendment to the Constitution of The American Legion Department of South Dakota may be introduced on the floor of the Convention, however, no amendment shall be in order for consideration at any convention unless it shall have been so submitted or unless one day notice of a proposed amendment is given and there is then unanimous consent of all delegates to such consideration. If such consent is given, the Department Commander shall, immediately and without debate refer the resolution to the Department Internal Affairs Commission for consideration and recommendation to the proposing convention, for final action.
5. Resolutions originating with and approved by a Convention Committee shall be received, assigned, and processed through the Department Adjutant for record and assigned Convention Committee numbers.
6. The Department Adjutant shall ensure that a Digest of Convention and Convention Committee Resolutions is included in the Official Proceedings of each Convention. The digest shall report all resolutions that were received, assigned and processed and shall identify each resolution by number, indicate the Committee to which the resolution was referred, the originating source and the final disposition of the resolution by the Convention.
7. In the disposition of resolutions considered, Convention Committees shall present their recommendations in the following manner, Recommend Approval, Recommend Approval as Amended, Recommend Consolidation, Referred, or Rejected.
8. All resolutions assigned to, or originating with Convention Committees, shall be identified in the Committee Reports to the Convention with a statement of the Committee disposition.

**RESOLUTION**  
**The American Legion Department of South Dakota**  
**One-Hundred and Fifth Department Convention, Pierre, South Dakota**  
**June 21, 22, 23, 2024**

RESOLUTION NO. 01

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF PROVIDING POSTSECONDARY CREDIT FOR MILITARY SERVICE

ORIGIN: C.P. VAN DELIST, POST 22, DISTRICT 2, DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON

Page 2 of 3

WHEREAS, The American Legion is dedicated to the well-being and advancement of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families; and

WHEREAS, Veterans are in need of academic post-military degree, certification and credentialing universally recognizable by employers for employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense (DoD) spares no expense to provide servicemembers with some of the best training and education in the nation paid for by federal budgets of the United States in various technical, leadership, and academic fields; and

WHEREAS, Military service often involves extensive training and education that is equivalent to or exceeds the standards of civilian colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, The American Council on Education (ACE) has evaluated most training of military occupations using Joint Services Transcripts and provides "recommendations and validated competencies" for awarding post-secondary credit for such training; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 2,800 institutions of higher learning signed the Department of Defense Voluntary Education Partnership (DoDVEP) Memorandum of Understanding formerly Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) agreement, to provide educational opportunities to servicemembers who, because they frequently moved from place to place, had trouble completing college degrees; and

WHEREAS, DoDVEP functions in cooperation with higher education associations to expand and improve voluntary post-secondary education opportunities for servicemembers worldwide; and

WHEREAS, There are many high demand technical career fields in critical shortage of qualified employees in the civilian workforce that require training, education and certification; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing and providing standard credit for military service can facilitate the transition of servicemembers into postsecondary education, civilian careers, and promote lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, Such recognition can contribute to the attainment of educational goals and further professional development among veterans and recognition can contribute to fulfilling the critical skills and employment shortages in the civilian sector of employment; and

WHEREAS, Federal taxpayers spend more than \$150 billion a year on federal financial aid, \$30 billion on GI Bill benefits, and \$1 billion on military tuition assistance, while students, states, and employers spend billions more, servicemembers are still required to take courses that have been recommended by ACE for credit; and

WHEREAS, The DoD has already paid for the training of its personnel for their military occupations and the taxpayers of the United States should not be burdened by paying for the training again in the form of the Tuition Assistance, GI Bill or any federally funded training programs; and

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Page 3 of 3

WHEREAS, DoD Tuition Assistance, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) education or any form of the GI Bill requires this evaluation, and a fully completed degree or certificate plan to ensure compliance with DoD and VA regulations; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, at The American Legion Department of South Dakota Department Convention June 21-23, 2024 in Pierre, SD, That the National American Legion support the establishment of a standardized system to recognize and appropriately award academic credit or certification for military service based on American Council on Education recommendations of evaluation of the Joint Services Transcript System standards; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the American Legion urges all post-secondary institutions to work collaboratively with the Department of Defense and relevant military agencies to develop and implement a comprehensive framework for assessing military training and experience for college credit; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the American Legion calls upon Congress to enact legislation that requires all post-secondary institutions that accept federal government funding to adopt policies recognizing the educational value of military service and provide appropriate postsecondary credit in accordance with American Council on Education recommendations and validated competencies; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the American Legion encourages all post-secondary institutions to establish clear and transparent procedures for evaluating military training and experience, granting credit where appropriate, and ensuring that veterans receive fair and equitable treatment in the pursuit of higher education; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That National Executive Committee Resolution No. 12, Fall 2014, "Support Joint Services Transcript Evaluation of Military Training and Experience of Veterans, Active-Duty, Reserve and National Guard Personnel" and National Convention 2016, Resolution No. 322, "Support Joint Services Transcript Evaluation of Military Training and Experience of Veterans, Active-Duty, Reserve and National Guard Personnel" be superseded and rescinded.**

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This is to certify that this resolution was adopted by our Post but with Department action substituted for local resolving clause.

Adjutant:

Post:

Other authorized source:

(To be used when resolution is submitted from another authorized source or to comply with Department Constitution and By-Laws)

**BELOW THIS LINE FOR DEPARTMENT CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE ONLY**

- Recommend Approval       Recommend Approval as Amended       Recommend Consolidation       Rejected  
 Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Chairman or Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_