

RESOLUTION

25

Resolution No. _____

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Subject _____

Referred to Convention Resolutions Committee

Whereas, many members of our nation's Armed Forces who have served in harm's way are returning home with invisible injuries greatly impacting their lives and those of their loved ones, and

Whereas, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) are the defined injuries suffered by our men and women serving in conflict during the past two decades, and

Whereas, these injuries greatly impact the mental health of our veterans, adversely influencing employment opportunities, family relations and linked to the dramatic increase in veterans' suicides, and

Whereas, the established course of treatment typically is mental health counseling and dispensing an increasing array of drugs that all too often is unsuccessful, leaving the veteran discouraged, distressed and too often worse off, and

Whereas, the devastation of PTSD and TBI demands dedicated and comprehensive studies to delineate viable treatments other than the less-than- successful current course of actions, and

Whereas, The American Legion, nationwide, has dedicated extensive resources to studying the effects of PTSD and TBI, recognizing our service members deserve access to the best care and research and other forms of therapy for treatment for brain injuries and mental stress, and

Whereas, studies have indicated animal therapy, hyperbaric oxygen treatment and various other courses of action have benefitted certain troubled veterans where conventional care has failed, now therefore be it

Resolved, by The Department of New York, American Legion, in convention assembled July 14, 15, 16, 2016 in Binghamton, New York, encourage New York State and its agencies to join The American Legion in pursuing, identifying and recommending viable, alternative treatments to assist our war-injured veterans in assuming their rightful role as leaders and contributing citizens of The Empire State.

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved ____X____ Rejected _____

Approved with Amendments _____

Consolidated with _____

Referred to Standing Committee on _____

Received and Recorded _____

Other Action _____

Signature _____

(Chairman)

Adjutant Signature

County

Below section to be completed when resolution is submitted from another authorized source.

John B. Sampson, Chairman

Name

Department Resolutions Committee

Title