

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 16

Subject VA Health Care Eligibility

Referred to Convention Resolutions Committee

WHEREAS, The American Legion is a National Organization of war time veterans who have dedicated themselves to the service of Community, State, and Nation and,

WHEREAS, The American Legion fully appreciated the dedicated service of those former prisoners of war and veterans awarded the Purple Heart and Medal of Honor, and

WHEREAS, The recipients have earned this award by displaying heroism and bravery while risking their lives during service to this great Nation, and

WHEREAS, by a law known as 38 United States Code 1722A, the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs was authorized and directed to charge co-payments for prescription drugs, and

WHEREAS, the law known as 38 United States Code 1710, makes Department of Veterans' affairs medical services available to former prisoners of war and recipients of the Purple Heart only to the extent of Congressional appropriation and does not so provide for recipients of the Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides hospital and out-patient care to veterans as defined in 38 CFR, Chapter 1, Part 17, section 17.38 Medical Benefits Package, and

WHEREAS The VA Secretary determines the categories of veterans eligible to be enrolled in VA Health Care based on an order of priority, and

WHEREAS, Former Prisoners of War, Purple Heart and Medal of Honor recipients are currently assigned to Priority Group 3, and are required to make co-payments for prescriptions and medical care not associated with service connected disabilities, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the American Legion, Department of New York, in convention assembled in Rochester, New York, July 19th-21st 2018 that the American Legion support legislation to amend 38 United States Code 1710, 22A so as to require Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Chapter 1, Part 17, section 17.38, Medical Benefits Package to specify that former Prisoner of War, Purple Heart and Medal of Honor recipients receive the same Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital and medical entitlements as granted to all Priority Group 1 veterans, and if adopted, this resolution be forwarded to the National Organization in Convention assembled August 24th-30th 2018 in Minneapolis, Minnesota for its consideration.

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved _____ Rejected _____

Approved with Amendments X

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