

Resolution No. 201

NATIONAL VFW VETERAN CREATIVE WRITING AWARD

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States was founded to support veterans in all aspects of their lives and to ensure their voices, experiences, and service are honored and preserved; and

WHEREAS, the VFW motto No One Does More for Veterans calls upon the organization to seek meaningful ways to support veterans beyond traditional advocacy and assistance programs; and

WHEREAS, creative writing has long served as a constructive outlet for veterans and service members to process experiences and communicate stories that may otherwise go unheard; and

WHEREAS, extending eligibility beyond VFW membership to all veterans and current service members demonstrates the VFW commitment to serving all who have worn the uniform; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, establish a National VFW Veteran Creative Writing Award open to all veterans and current service members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each submission must include acceptable proof of military service and a signed non exclusive release permitting publication while ownership remains with the author; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW National Headquarters administer this award and may develop administrative procedures consistent with the eligibility requirements, submission criteria, and documentation standards set forth herein.

Submitted by Department of Oklahoma
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

REJECTED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Resolution No. 202
NATIONAL VFW VETERAN POETRY AWARD

WHEREAS, the VFW supports veteran voices and creative expression; and

WHEREAS, poetry provides a proven outlet for reflection and healing;
now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States,
establish a National VFW Veteran Poetry Award; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that submissions include proof of service and a non
exclusive publication release; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW National Headquarters administer
this award and may develop administrative procedures consistent with the eligibility
requirements, submission criteria, and documentation standards set forth herein.

Submitted by Department of Oklahoma
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

REJECTED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the
United States.

Resolution No. 203

NATIONAL VFW VETERAN ILLUSTRATED ART AWARD

WHEREAS, visual art provides veterans an expressive and healing medium; and

WHEREAS, recognizing veteran artists aligns with the VFW mission; now,
therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States,
establish a National VFW Veteran Illustrated Art Award; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that submissions include proof of service and a non
exclusive display release; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW National Headquarters administer
this award and may develop administrative procedures consistent with the eligibility
requirements, submission criteria, and documentation standards set forth herein.

Submitted by Department of Oklahoma
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

REJECTED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the
United States.

Resolution No. 204

VFW OUTSTANDING MILITARY LEADER AWARD

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has long stood as the nation's preeminent combat veterans organization, leading the charge in advocacy for veterans, service members, and their families; and

WHEREAS, leadership at every level of military service has a direct and lasting impact on the morale, readiness, welfare, and lives of those they lead; and

WHEREAS, effective military leadership is not defined by rank or the number of personnel led, but by the character, integrity, mentorship, and positive influence a leader has on those entrusted to their care; and

WHEREAS, many outstanding leaders currently serving in the Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard components exemplify ethical leadership and dedication to the well being and future success of their service members; and

WHEREAS, recognizing leadership during active service reinforces accountability, professionalism, and compassion within the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, as an organization founded and led by combat veterans, the VFW is uniquely positioned to honor those who are currently leading service members in uniform; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, establish the VFW Outstanding Military Leader Award open to current Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard service members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that eligibility for this award includes leaders at any level of responsibility, with selection based on demonstrated impact on morale, mentorship, ethical leadership, and mission accomplishment rather than rank or size of command; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that nominations may be submitted by subordinates, leaders within the nominee's chain of command, chaplains, or other recognized leaders within the nominee's unit or command; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW National Headquarters administer this award and may develop administrative procedures consistent with the eligibility requirements, submission criteria, and documentation standards set forth herein.

Submitted by Department of Oklahoma
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

REJECTED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Resolution No. 205

PROTECTION OF VETERAN PRIVACY & OPERATIONAL SECURITY IN THIRD-PARTY DIGITAL PLATFORMS

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) is a trusted Congressionally-chartered organization dedicated to protecting the interests, well-being, and security of veterans, service members, and their families; and

WHEREAS, veterans frequently place significant trust in resources, programs, links, and organizations promoted through official VFW communication channels, affiliated platforms, or endorsed community spaces; and

WHEREAS, certain third-party veteran networking, social connection, military memory, and service-history platforms request, encourage, or facilitate the sharing of extensive personal and military-related information, including but not limited to service dates, duty stations, units, military occupational specialties, photographs, medals, awards, personal reflections, family relationships, operational experiences, military documents, and service-related narratives; and

WHEREAS, while veteran connection and camaraderie are critically important, the aggregation of personal and military-related information presents legitimate privacy, operational security (OPSEC), identity theft, foreign intelligence exploitation, social engineering, impersonation, and data security concerns; and

WHEREAS, Veterans experiencing loneliness, isolation, grief, trauma, cognitive decline, or a desire for reconnection may be particularly vulnerable to oversharing sensitive personal or military information in pursuit of community and companionship; and

WHEREAS, the appearance of a third-party platform within official or affiliated VFW communication channels may reasonably create the impression among veterans that such platforms have undergone formal privacy, cybersecurity, veteran-protection, and operational security review or endorsement by the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, the VFW has an obligation to exercise due diligence regarding organizations, platforms, or resources presented to veterans under the appearance of official trust or implied endorsement; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, refrains from formally endorsing, promoting, or advertising third-party veteran networking or military-history data collection platforms unless such entities have undergone meaningful review regarding:

1. Veteran privacy protections;
2. Data collection, sharing, retention, and deletion policies;
3. Cybersecurity safeguards;
4. Transparency regarding third-party information sharing;
5. Operational security risks associated with aggregated service-related information; and
6. Protections for vulnerable veteran populations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars encourage educational guidance for members regarding online operational security (OPSEC), digital privacy awareness, oversharing risks, and responsible disclosure of military service information on third-party platforms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that until such review standards are established, the Veterans of Foreign Wars should avoid the appearance of official endorsement of any third-party veteran data aggregation or networking platform whose privacy, security, and veteran-protection practices have not been independently evaluated.

Submitted by Department of Georgia
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

REJECTED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Resolution No. 206

ESTABLISH A NATIONAL VFW SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, suicide among veterans remains one of the leading causes of preventable death, impacting families, friends and communities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that education, outreach and early intervention can significantly reduce suicide rates; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is uniquely positioned to advocate for and implement initiatives that address the critical issue of suicide prevention among veterans, service members, and their families; and

WHEREAS, while the VFW currently supports various mental health initiatives, an organized, comprehensive national program would enhance the organization's ability to educate, provide resources, and offer direct support to those in crisis; and

WHEREAS, establishing a National VFW Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program would formalize these efforts, ensuring sustained and strategic action in addressing veteran suicide; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, establishes a National VFW Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program to strengthen and unify existing VFW suicide prevention initiatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this program shall include:

1. A National Suicide Prevention Task Force, comprised of VFW members, mental health professionals, and other key stakeholders, tasked with advising and guiding VFW policy and program initiatives.
2. Standardized training for VFW members and leadership in suicide prevention, crisis intervention and mental health awareness.
3. Partnerships with mental health professionals, VA services and community healthcare providers to ensure comprehensive access to resources for veterans and their families.
4. An outreach program that proactively engages veterans at risk through peer support networks, Post-level educational sessions and digital outreach efforts.
5. A dedicated funding strategy ensuring sustainability through existing VFW resources, grant opportunities and public private partnerships.

6. Annual assessment and reporting requirements, ensuring the effectiveness of the program and providing recommendations for continuous improvement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Commander-in-Chief and the National Director of Programs shall oversee the implementation and ongoing evaluation of this program, making necessary adjustments to better serve VFW members and the veteran community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW shall advocate for expanded suicide prevention resources, working alongside government agencies, nonprofit organizations and other stakeholders to strengthen national and local suicide prevention efforts.

Submitted by Department of Arizona
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

REJECTED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Resolution No. 207

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MODERN ELIGIBILITY AND REMOTE SERVICE ACT (VFW MERit) ACT

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) was founded in 1899 to serve and advocate for veterans who placed themselves in harm's way on foreign soil, in overseas expeditions, and in hostile waters, and has historically focused on veterans whose service has been recognized by a campaign medal based on service and physical presence in foreign wars, insurrections, or expeditions; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional Charter of the VFW, codified in Title 36, United States Code, Chapter 2301, together with Article I – Members, Section 101 – Eligibility, of the VFW National Bylaws, currently restricts membership primarily to individuals whose qualifying service is defined by physical presence in a foreign theater, hostile waters, or an overseas expedition, or by specific campaign medal or hostile-fire criteria; and

WHEREAS, the 21st-century paradigm of warfare has evolved beyond physical geography, introducing remote and over-the-horizon combat operations—including unmanned aerial systems (UAS) and remotely piloted aircraft (RPA), cyber warfare, space and network operations, and persistent intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR)—through which operators actively engage, disrupt, and neutralize foreign adversaries from remote installations often thousands of miles from the point of impact; and

WHEREAS, retaining a 20th-century definition of geography in a 21st-century paradigm of warfare is unsustainable, and if the VFW wishes to remain the premier voice for those who fight America's wars, its Congressional Charter must evolve to recognize that in modern warfare the "front line" is no longer a place—it is a network; and

WHEREAS, under a functional theater-of-action metric, if a cyber operator actively breaches an adversary's grid in a hostile theater, or a drone operator controls airspace over a conflict zone, they are operationally in that foreign war regardless of their physical distance from the point of impact, and their service is integral to the conduct of hostilities; and

WHEREAS, these remote, cyber, and over-the-horizon Service Members therefore operate directly within the theater of action in a functional sense, face targeted retaliation in the cyber, information, and physical domains, bear significant psychological and moral burdens, and execute missions that directly result in the kinetic or digital destruction of enemy forces and the defense of U.S. and allied forces; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense and the military services recognize the distinct combat impact of these operations through unclassified operational awards and designations, including but not limited to remote combat campaign or effects medals,

combat-designated unit citations, and documented participation in named combat or contingency operations; and

WHEREAS, the United States Air Force has established the Remote Combat Effects Campaign Medal (RCECM) to recognize Airmen who directly participate in combat operations through remote means, and continues to award the Air Medal—for certain remotely executed missions—to recognize meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight or direct support to combat operations; and

WHEREAS, additional modernized, network-based, and remote-operations awards or devices may be created or revised by the Department of Defense or the military services in the future to recognize direct participation in, or direct support of, combat operations and armed hostilities conducted through such means; and

WHEREAS, modern warfare has fundamentally changed what it means to “bear the battle,” such that an ever-larger share of those who truly fight and support combat operations will do so from remote, classified, or non-traditional locations, and if the United States shifts increasingly—or even entirely—to over-the-horizon warfare, the number of new veterans earning traditional campaign medals may decline sharply toward zero; and

WHEREAS, new bipartisan legislation known as the Combat Action Recognition and Evaluation (CARE) for Remotely Piloted Aircraft Crews Act has been introduced as new legislation for drone crews, specifically to formally recognize off-site drone pilots and crew members who conduct combat missions as combat-relevant participants; and

WHEREAS, the CARE for RPA Crews Act directs the military services, in consultation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish a specific “status identifier” that denotes combat participation for remotely piloted aircraft crew members, thereby creating a standardized and documentable means of identifying remote operators who have taken part in combat operations; and

WHEREAS, this status identifier is intended to ensure that drone crews receive appropriate consideration for veterans’ benefits, services, and mental healthcare tied to combat service, acknowledging that remote RPA crews may experience post-traumatic stress, moral injury, and operational fatigue comparable in some respects to traditional in-theater combat troops; and

WHEREAS, the CARE for RPA Crews Act further seeks parity with traditional combat troops by requiring that RPA crews’ combat contributions be treated in a manner similar to established combat designations when the Department of Veterans Affairs evaluates eligibility and support, thus reinforcing the principle that risk, responsibility, and combat impact—not mere physical proximity—should drive recognition; and

WHEREAS, similar legislation was introduced in the previous Congress, and related language from the CARE for RPA Crews framework has already been adopted as an amendment in the Senate-passed Fiscal Year 2026 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), now awaiting further congressional review, demonstrating legislative progress via the NDAA and clear, bipartisan momentum to codify remote combat recognition in federal law; and

WHEREAS, these emerging federal standards—combining medals, combat-designated unit citations, and status identifiers for remote operators—provide objective tools that the VFW can rely upon when modernizing its own membership criteria to recognize those who have borne the battle in digitally mediated and over-the-horizon forms of warfare; and

WHEREAS, if the VFW’s eligibility framework remains anchored solely in traditional geographic and campaign-medal constructs while the Nation’s wars are fought predominantly through networks, remote platforms, and cyberspace, the organization will, within one or two generations, face a vanishing pool of new eligible members and risk the fate of the Grand Army of the Republic—total institutional extinction once the last eligible generation passes away; and

WHEREAS, the VFW does not need to abandon its foundational mandate as an organization of veterans of foreign wars, but must pragmatically redefine what “foreign space” and “foreign service” mean in an era when combat power is projected through networks and constellations as much as through ships and divisions, so that its eligibility standards align with where and how modern wars are actually fought; and

WHEREAS, to remain faithful to its founding mission and to preserve its character as an organization of combat and combat-support veterans, the VFW must ensure that its membership standards fairly and consistently recognize honorable service in clearly defined combat-relevant roles—including over-the-horizon, cyber, remote, and digitally mediated functions—while maintaining appropriate guardrails against diluting the combat-focused nature of the organization; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, assembled at its National Convention, that we urge the Congress of the United States to enact legislation, to be known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars Modern Eligibility and Remote Service Act (VFW-MERit Act), to amend 36 U.S.C. §§ 230101 and 230103, and any related provisions of the VFW Congressional Charter, to modernize membership eligibility so that it explicitly recognizes combat-relevant over-the-horizon, remote, and cyber warfare roles performed in support of U.S. operations against foreign adversaries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW-MERit Act shall establish a modern, combat-relevance-based eligibility standard for combat and combat-support service, thereby safeguarding both the wartime character of the organization and its long-term institutional viability, as follows:

1. COMBAT-RELEVANCE STANDARD.

Service Members whose official military records, as determined by competent military authority and recognized by the VFW National organization, establish: (a) direct participation in, or direct operational support of, combat or contingency operations conducted against foreign adversaries, including through modernized, network-based, cyber, space, remote, or over-the-horizon means; and (b) assignment to a unit, billet, or duty position, or receipt of an individual or unit award, specifically identified by competent military authority as conducting or directly supporting such combat or contingency operations—regardless of the geographical location from which such operations are conducted or whether traditional campaign medals have been awarded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that for purposes of this combat-relevance standard, clear indicators of combat-relevant service shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Award of the Remote Combat Effects Campaign Medal;
2. Award of the Air Medal for remote or over-the-horizon combat or direct combat-support operations;
3. Award of any present or future Department of Defense or service-specific individual medal, ribbon, badge, device, or officially established status identifier—such as the combat participation identifier contemplated under the CARE for RPA Crews Act—expressly designated to recognize direct participation in, or direct support of, combat or contingency operations conducted through modernized, network-based, cyber, space, remote, or over-the-horizon means; and
4. Documented assignment, as reflected in official military orders or records, to units, billets, or duty positions identified by competent military authority as conducting or directly supporting named combat or contingency operations, including those executed through over-the-horizon, remote, cyber, or other digitally mediated means; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Article I – Members, Section 101 – Eligibility, of the VFW National Bylaws and the VFW Manual of Procedure be conformed, upon enactment of the VFW-MERit Act and corresponding amendments to the Congressional Charter, to add implementing language substantially as follows:

“An individual is eligible for membership if the individual’s official military records, as determined under procedures prescribed by the National organization, establish direct participation in, or direct operational support of, combat or contingency operations against foreign adversaries, as identified by competent military authority. Such participation or

support may occur through traditional in-theater service or through modernized, network-based, cyber, space, remote, over-the-horizon, or other digitally mediated warfare roles that directly employ, or enable the employment of, lethal or strategically decisive force in support of such operations, notwithstanding the absence of physical presence within the theater of operations.

Indicators of such combat-relevant service may include, but are not limited to:

(1) the Remote Combat Effects Campaign Medal; (2) the Air Medal awarded for remote or over-the-horizon combat or direct combat-support operations; (3) any present or future Department of Defense or service-specific individual award, medal, ribbon, badge, device, or combat participation status identifier—such as those established pursuant to a passed Congressional Act—expressly designated to recognize direct participation in, or direct support of, such operations; or (4) documented assignment to units, billets, or duty positions identified by competent military authority as conducting or directly supporting named combat or contingency operations.”

and that conforming references be included in the Manual of Procedure to authorize the National organization to promulgate and update detailed combat-relevance criteria and verification procedures—specifically including over-the-horizon, remote, cyber, and other digitally mediated warfare functions, any future Department of Defense awards for such roles, and any status identifiers adopted pursuant to legislation such as the CARE for RPA Crews Act or other future Congressional Act—consistent with this combat-relevance standard and the redefined understanding of “foreign space” and the “theater of action” in modern warfare; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the VFW National Legislative Service be directed to actively seek sponsors for, and advocate for the passage of, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Modern Eligibility and Remote Service Act (VFW-MERit Act), or similar statutory measures that would amend the VFW Congressional Charter to enact this combat-relevance framework and ensure that the front lines of modern network and over-the-horizon warfare are legally recognized by this organization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, upon adoption by the National Convention, be implemented in conformity with the VFW National Bylaws, the Manual of Procedure, and the amended provisions of the Congressional Charter, so that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States may continue to credibly and visibly represent those who have borne the battle in both traditional and over-the-horizon forms of modern warfare, and to remain the enduring national voice of those who fight America’s wars even as the battlefield becomes a network as much as a place.

Submitted by Department of Europe
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

REJECTED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Resolution No. 208

ESTABLISHING A DESIGNATED FAMILY-FRIENDLY SPACE AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

WHEREAS, many Comrades and members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary are responsible for the care of children and grandchildren who are not yet eligible for membership; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Veterans of Foreign Wars represents a wide range of ages, backgrounds, and family circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, as stated in Title 36, United States Code, § 230102, are fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational, and include: (1) to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; (2) to assist worthy comrades; (3) to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans; (4) to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; (5) to foster true patriotism; (6) to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and (7) to preserve and defend the United States from all enemies; and

WHEREAS, fostering an environment that allows members to attend the National Convention while also fulfilling family responsibilities supports these purposes; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States explore establishing a designated family-friendly space at the National Convention where Comrades and Auxiliary members may bring their children and grandchildren; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars consider providing or arranging for age-appropriate resources, such as coloring books, toys, games, movies, and snacks, so that families are able to utilize the space in a way that benefits the members, the Auxiliary, and the organization as a whole.

Submitted by Department of West Virginia
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

APPROVED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Resolution No. 209

DECLARING THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES A PURPLE HEART ENTITY

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and our community have a great admiration and the utmost gratitude and respect for all men and women who have, and are selflessly serving their country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, have paid the significant price of freedom by leaving their families and communities and placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of these men and women who serve or have served the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, many men and women in uniform have given the ultimate sacrifice by laying down their lives while serving in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, service members and citizens of our country and communities have received the Purple Heart Medal as a result of being wounded or killed while engaged in a direct or indirect action against an enemy, construed as a singularly meritorious act of essential service; and

WHEREAS, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States seeks to remember and recognize veterans who are recipients of the Purple Heart Medal; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we proclaim the organization a Purple Heart entity, and shall further honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's men and women in uniform, whom by their courageous actions were wounded or killed while serving to protect our freedoms.

Submitted by Department of Washington
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

REJECTED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Resolution No. 210

BAN ALL TOBACCO USAGE AND PRODUCTS FROM VFW FACILITIES

WHEREAS, a 2020 VA survey shows only 13.3% of veterans smoke, leaving an overwhelming 86.7% of veterans that do not smoke; and

WHEREAS, there are over 480,000 deaths in the United States due to cigarette smoking and secondhand smoke exposure; and

WHEREAS, the VA spends a lot of money annually on smoking related breathing issues that the VFW could, in a small way, help prevent by being “smoke free”; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars supported numerous laws such as the PACT Act to compensate veterans due to toxic exposure; and

WHEREAS, cigarette smoke contains over 250 harmful or toxic chemicals; and

WHEREAS, all U.S. military installations are non-smoking in their buildings; and

WHEREAS, the use of tobacco products inside VFW facilities deters youth programs and family-oriented activities; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society recently gave the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania an “F” on their recent response to our smoking laws; and

WHEREAS, the Moose International has banned tobacco use from their facilities. While there was an adjustment period afterward, their membership is strong and have gained new members, proving smoking will deter many people becoming members of an organization; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars has the opportunity to be in the lead of other veteran’s, fraternal, and civic organizations; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, ban all tobacco usage and products within all structures owned by, leased by, used by, or rented by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (with the exception of designated outdoor smoking areas, huts or sheds) to protect the veterans, the veterans’ families and our guests from toxic exposure of tobacco.

Submitted by Department of Pennsylvania
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

Resolution No. 211

AMEND THE CONGRESSIONAL CHARTER TO INCLUDE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE

WHEREAS, Section 230101(a) of Title 36, United States Code, defines membership using the terms soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen; and

WHEREAS, the United States Space Force is now an independent branch whose members may otherwise qualify for VFW eligibility; and

WHEREAS, inclusion of “Guardians” would modernize the Congressional Charter and recognize those veterans; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, petition the Congress of the United States to amend Section 230101(a), Title 36, United States Code, by inserting the words: “military service members” and striking “soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen”.

Submitted by Department of Colorado
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

APPROVED AS AMENDED by the 127th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.