**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA**

**1601 7TH STREET, SANGER, CA, 93657-2801**

**103 Annual Department Convention**

**June 24-26, 2022**

**Resolution No. 2022-020**

**Subject: Supportive Services Funding for Homeless and At-Risk Veterans**

**Origin: National Veterans Employment & Education Division**

Submitted By: Eric Measles

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Veterans represent approximately 11% of the general homeless population, and 3.7% of veterans become homeless in the first five years after service

WHEREAS, Isolation and lack of social support systems are major risk factors among United States veterans leading to 1 out of 5 veterans living alone with an increased risk of going homeless if proper social support is not in place after discharge.

WHEREAS, The (FY) 2021 Department of Veteran Affairs Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups (CHALENG) report that consistent with 2020 data and with the previous 20 years of data, unmet needs of veterans are primarily services that VA cannot provide directly.

WHEREAS, CHALENG sites eight of the ten unmet needs continue to be housing for veterans who need to register as sex offenders, and legal assistance in the areas of court fees/court fines, credit issues/debt collection, expunging criminal records, child support, family law, discharge upgrade appeals, and tax issues. It sites six of the ten met needs continue to be medical services, mental health services, case management, food, TB testing, and substance abuse treatment.

WHEREAS, Several studies have identified unemployment as one of the factors that greatly contribute to homelessness among veterans due to a combination of factors that may or may not include mental or physical problems and substance abuse

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion, Department of California at Department Convention assembled in Visalia California, June 24-26, 2022, That The American Legion renew its commitment to assisting homeless veterans and their families; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion continue to support the efforts of the public and private sector agencies and organizations with resources necessary to aid homeless veterans and their families; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That THE American Legion seek and support any legislative or administrative proposal that will provide medical, rehabilitative and employment assistance to homeless veterans and their families; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion expresses strong support of the importance of collaboration among agencies and sectors to meet the needs of veterans and put an end to homelessness and at risk homelessness among veterans.**

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by Department

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Department Commander Date Department Adjutant Date