

RESOLUTION
National Headquarters, The American Legion
One-Hundred and Sixth Annual National Convention, Tampa, Florida
August 26, 27, 28, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 17

SUBJECT: REVISE COST OF PAID-UP-FOR-LIFE MEMBERSHIP

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, According to the ACS-54 report dated July 2023 titled Aging Veterans: America’s Veteran Population in Later Life, “About One-Half of Veterans Are 65 Years and Over, and Of the 16.5 million living veterans in the United States, 8.1 million (49 percent) are 65 years and over (Table 1). Of all veterans, 1 in 4 is 70 to 79 years old, making this the single largest age group of veterans, while 3 in 4 are at least 50 years old;” and

WHEREAS, The American Legion (TAL) National Membership Record 2025 shows an alarming declining trend in national membership, from 3,115,340 in 1992 to 1,762,136 in 2020 to 1,487,214 in 2024; and

WHEREAS, one of the most common reasons that TAL members do NOT convert to Paid Up For Life (PUFL) is the very high cost, for example, for TAL 60-69 year-olds, the PUFL costs \$815 which is very high compared to the VFW’s 61-70 rate of \$290 and DAV’s any-age rate of \$325 (DAV life is free for 80+ year-olds); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Tampa, Florida, August 26, 27, 28, 2025, That the The American Legion shall revise their PUFL rates to be competitive with the VFW and DAV, the other BIG-3 veterans service organizations.

RESOLVED, That these new capabilities be widely communicated and promoted to the entire organization for maximum adoption.

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

Adjutant Sam Flores

Department California

Other authorized source:

(To be used when resolution is submitted from another authorized source or to comply with Resolution 21, May 4-5, 2016)

BELOW THIS LINE FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Approved Approved with Amendment Rejected Received and Recorded Consolidated with
Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on
Other Action
Signature of Chairman or Secretary _____

REGULATIONS

Based on the Uniform Code of Procedure for the Organization of National Conventions of The American Legion, adopted by the National Executive Committee at its October 1956 meeting, the following regulations have been established for the procedure of Convention Resolutions:

1. Each must emanate from a department after favorable action or from the National Executive Committee, or from any convention standing or special committee. Resolutions submitted in advance of the convention by departments and the National Executive Committee shall be filed with the national adjutant, who shall refer them to the National Convention Resolutions Assignment Committee.
2. The national adjutant shall maintain a convention register of all resolutions received, assigned and processed which shall identify each resolution by number, indicating the committee to which the resolution was referred and the originating source.

In submitting resolutions, the following points should be carefully observed:

- a. A resolution shall deal with only one subject. Do not attempt to deal with more than one subject in the RESOLVING clauses.
- b. All local RESOLVING clauses are to be omitted, substituting therein a clause resolving national action, i.e. the resolution as submitted should be worded for the National Convention as follows:

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Tampa, Florida, August 26, 27, 28, 2025, That —

If the resolving clause is not stated as above (using convention business session dates) it necessitates having to re-write the resolution to show the proper resolving clause.

- c. Each resolution is to be worded in full, including all WHEREAS clauses as well as the RESOLVING clauses.
 - d. Each resolution is to be signed in black ink and the originating source clearly typewritten or indicated, unless it is submitted as a computer file. Then the originating source is to be placed in the footer of the form.
3. In accordance with Resolution No. 21, adopted by the National Executive Committee in regular meeting assembled on May 4-5, 2016, each resolution should be supported by the identification of the individual or group originating the resolution, and also by a written statement or brief containing the supporting arguments in favor of the action sought, and clearly establishing the material relevance of the subject to the purpose for which The American Legion was formed.
 4. In accordance with Resolution No. 50, adopted by the National Executive Committee in regular meeting assembled on May 5-6, 1965, resolutions adopted by departments and destined for consideration by the National Convention shall be forwarded to the national adjutant, to be in his hands fourteen (14) days prior to the opening session of the National Convention. The only exception to this provision shall be in instances where Department Conventions are held at such time that it becomes physically impossible to comply with this provision, in which instances, the resolutions shall be forwarded to the national adjutant immediately upon the adjournment of the Department Convention.
 5. The National Convention Resolutions Assignment Committee may return through and with the consent of the secretary of the National Convention to the source, inappropriate or non-germane resolutions that may be resubmitted, when corrected, to the National Executive Committee or National Convention by the originator. Inappropriate or non-germane resolutions include, but are not limited to: Convention resolutions (1) containing more than one subject, (2) calling for or requiring the expenditure of funds, (3) containing personal attacks or derogatory characterizations, (4) outside the purview, (5) not pertinent or inappropriate for action by the National Convention or (6) unclear and undocumented. Deficient resolutions, once corrected, in order to be reconsidered, need to be resubmitted to the National Convention or National Executive Committee as provided in the National Constitution & By-Laws.