

Jewish War Veterans of the USA



Resolutions
2020

Draft

Resolutions

This year our National Convention is shorter, but we still have as much business to accomplish. In order to be as productive in the shorter span of time, we have revised the Resolutions process.

Meeting Rules

- Arrive at the meeting at least 5 minutes before it is scheduled to start.
- Wear your JWV cap.
- It is very important that every member attending the Resolutions Committee meetings and/or the business sessions **come prepared to discuss, not read.**
 - We have reviewed the proposed resolutions for spelling and grammar errors. If, despite our best efforts, you find a spelling or grammar error, please tell committee Chairman, PNC Michael Berman, or Christy Turner about it at the end of the meeting so that it can be corrected. **We will not take time during the meeting for spelling or grammar edits.**
- The Chairman will mute everyone during the meeting and unmute individuals for questions or comments.
- Roll call will be taken at the beginning of the meeting.
- Members will use a raised hand icon to indicate that they have a question/comment will be called upon in the order the request is received.
- Members will use the same raised hand icon when voting.
 - All JWV members are welcome to attend and participate in the Resolutions committee meetings. However, during the meetings, only Resolution committee members may vote on the status of proposed resolutions.

A final version of the Resolution booklet will be posted on the JWV website on the last day of the convention.

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BURIAL OF DISCHARGED UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS INDIGENT VETERANS

WHEREAS, all discharged under honorable conditions veterans deserve a burial with respect and due honors, and

WHEREAS, this respect and these honors are earned through their service to their Nation, and

WHEREAS, veterans deserve this respect and these honors regardless of their military rank, social status or ability to pay for a costly burial or cremation, and

WHEREAS, there needs to be available a system in place wherein a veteran can have a respectful funeral, burial or cremation regardless of any extraneous considerations, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs appears to be the most logical central point for providing both information and funding to guarantee proper religious honors.

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA asks Congress to establish within the Department of Veterans Affairs a “Veterans Burial Fund” that would ensure that every veteran, regardless of prior military rank, social status or financial condition, is afforded a respectful burial or cremation.

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1 CHAIM SALOMON

2 **WHEREAS**, Chaim Salomon directly contributed to the success for the American
3 Revolution, and

4 **WHEREAS**, Chaim Salomon was born in Poland and immigrated to the American
5 Colonies where, using the skills he learned as a financial broker in Europe to assist raising
6 funds to help finance the Revolution, and

7 **WHEREAS**, Chaim Salomon served as a translator for the British Army and its Hessian
8 mercenaries while encouraging the Hessians to desert leaving the British to sentence him
9 to death on two occasions, and

10 **WHEREAS**, when Congress was unable to raise any additional funds, Chaim Salomon
11 used and exhausted his personal fortune to pay for the Revolution, and

12 **WHEREAS**, Chaim Salomon died penniless and unable to repay many of the loans he
13 had secured, and

14 **WHEREAS**, the story of Chaim Salomon has been largely forgotten and lost by the
15 students now being educated.

16 **THEREFORE**, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA calls upon the State Departments
17 of Education to insist that the sacrifice of Chaim Salomon be mentioned in the school
18 textbooks now being published for use throughout the United States.

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1 **EXPANSION OF RETAIL PHARMACY DISCOUNTS**

2 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Inspector General has found
3 that the Civilian Health and Medical Program of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) does not
4 have the ability to require the makers of prescription drugs available at discounted prices
5 to the VA if the same drug is available through the VA's own pharmacies, and

6 **WHEREAS**, had CHAMPVA had such authority, the VA could have saved some \$69
7 million of the \$181 million the CHAMPVA paid retail pharmacies in FY 2018, and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Office of the Inspector General reports that the VA could save \$345.1
9 million of the next five years if TRICARE could have the legal authority to require
10 retail pharmacies sell prescription drugs to CHAMPVA veterans at the same price the
11 manufacturers sell their products directly to the VA.

12 **THEREFORE**, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA calls upon the Department of
13 Veterans Affairs to immediately commence the process of requiring retail pharmacies to
14 sell prescription drugs to CHAMPVA veterans at the same price as the manufacturers sell
15 their products directly to the VA.

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FOREIGN NATIONALS WHO SERVED WITH THE UNITED STATES MILITARY

1 **FOREIGN NATIONALS WHO SERVED WITH THE**
2 **UNITED STATES MILITARY**
3 **WHEREAS**, in various times the United States has recruited foreign nationals to serve
4 with the American military, and
5 **WHEREAS**, these foreign nationals suffered injuries and illnesses arising out of their
6 service in our military, and
7 **WHEREAS**, these foreign nationals are in need of medical and mental health treatments
8 for these war-borne injuries and illnesses, and
9 **WHEREAS**, these foreign nationals were left behind when the United States military
10 withdrew from the area and caused to fend for themselves in an often-hostile environment
11 where they may have been deemed as traitors to a government; and
12 **WHEREAS**, they often suffered torture or death for their allegiance to the United States,
13 and
14 **WHEREAS**, they may have been promised refuge in the United States as a reward for
15 their service.
16 **THEREFORE**, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA call upon Congress to allow these
17 veterans of service with the American military entry into the United States for the purpose
18 of naturalization and to receive treatments for their service-connected illnesses and
19 injuries, and
20 **FURTHERMORE**, it is suggested that these veterans be eligible for naturalization,
21 irrespective of any current restrictions on naturalization.

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1 **HOMELESS VETERANS**

2 **WHEREAS**, there continues to be a serious problem with too many veterans being
3 homeless throughout the country, and

4 **WHEREAS**, in order to have this population receive the funding necessary to address
5 some of their difficulties they need to be considered as a “Special Needs Population”, and

6 **WHEREAS**, as a Special Needs Population the homeless veterans will receive a larger
7 portion of the funding allocation.

8 **THEREFORE**, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA supports efforts to have the
9 homeless veterans deemed as a Special Needs Population.

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MAJ. RICHARD STAR ACT (H.R. 5995)

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WHEREAS, Maj. Richard Star is a combat engineer in Afghanistan and Iraq, and

WHEREAS, Maj. Star had to retire with less than 20 years of service due to service-connected terminal lung cancer, and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would authorize full concurrent receipt of military retirement and disability compensation, and

WHEREAS, under the system now in existence, there is a dollar-for-dollar offset so that the average disabled veteran suffers an offset of \$494.11 per month or almost \$6,000 per year.

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA supports the efforts to enact the Maj. Richard Star Act to end this unfair burden on combat-related ill and injured service members.

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MEANS TEST FOR WWII VETERANS

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WHEREAS, in 1996, Congress passed the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Act which established a means test for eligibility for some veterans to be able to make use of the VA healthcare system, and

WHEREAS, the Legislation exempted veterans of the Spanish-American and World War I and,

WHEREAS, the Legislation exempted veterans who, at the time of its' passage were in their late 80s to 90s, and

WHEREAS, today the surviving World War II veterans are in that same age bracket and deserve the same courtesy as was extended to Spanish-American and World War I veterans in their time.

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA asks Congress to eliminate the means test for all World War II veterans and their spouses.

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1 RABBIS RETURN TO THE GERMAN ARMY

2 WHEREAS, the German Bundestag has unanimously authorized Rabbis to serve in the
3 German Army, and

4 WHEREAS, this represents the first time since the 1930s that Rabbis are permitted to
5 serve in this capacity, and

6 WHEREAS, the first Rabbis are expected to commence their duties in the Fall of 2020, and

7 WHEREAS, there are some 300 members of the German Army who announce
8 themselves to be of the Jewish faith.

9 THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA congratulates the Bundestag for
10 taking this step to meet the religious needs of the Jewish members of its military.

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A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CONTRACEPTION AND COMBAT READINESS

WHEREAS, THE Marine Corps has eliminated mandatory education on contraception for recruits during boot camp, and

WHEREAS, this has left female recruits to get contraception education on their own, and

WHEREAS, Marines can get birth control only on sick-call, outside of work hours or opt to receive long-acting reversible contraception only during the last two weeks of basic training, and

WHEREAS, according to the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, before the classes were eliminated, unintended pregnancies among active-duty women were at 6.9%, and

WHEREAS, the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology studies showed the result of the elimination of the mandatory classes resulted in an additional 67 deliveries a year, 5,601 days of postpartum leave, and 30,937 non-deployable days among female Marines, compared to the year before.

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA calls upon the Military to reinstate mandatory contraceptive education across all branches of the military and to make readily available contraceptive devices to all members of the military who seek such.

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1 **SERVICE MEMBER AND VETERAN SUICIDES**

2 **WHEREAS**, in 2013, there were 18.5 suicides per 100,000 active-duty troops but in 2018
3 there were 24.8 suicides per 100,000 active-duty troops, and

4 **WHEREAS**, male veterans were about 30 percent more likely to commit suicide than
5 their civilian counterparts, and

6 **WHEREAS**, women veterans are committing suicide at a rate of almost double their
7 civilian counterparts, and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA has long called upon Congress and
9 the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to redouble their efforts and financial
10 support to halt this trend toward more suicides.

11 **THEREFORE**, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA demands that Congress and the
12 Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs increase the funding and psychological
13 testing of every member of the military components and veteran to ensure that they are
14 not at risk for suicide, and

15 **FURTHERMORE**, there be introduced a system whereby appropriate authorities can
16 be notified that a member of the military or a veteran might be in danger to him/herself
17 without any negative repercussions to the endangered individual or the person making
18 such a report.

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SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE VA

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WHEREAS, a Government Accounting Office study found that 26% of female employees within the Department of Veterans Affairs felt that they had been victims of sexual harassment on the job site, and

WHEREAS, the GAO study found conflicting and incomplete policies concerning sexual harassment as well as a lack of data about allegations, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs told Congress that it could take up to four years to implement the recommendations within the GAO report, and

WHEREAS, the Congressional Committee overseeing the Department of Veterans Affairs has directed that the four-year time-frame was completely unacceptable.

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA demands the Department of Veterans Affairs to immediately implement to GAO recommendations as a staff fearing sexual harassment may not pay as much attention to caring for veterans they serve as they do trying to avoid being sexual harassed.

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1 **SHORTFALLS OF MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR WOMEN VETERANS**

2 **WHEREAS**, there are approximately 2 million female veterans across the United States,
3 and

4 **WHEREAS**, women veterans may require gender-specific medical equipment, medical
5 specialists, space and care, and

6 **WHEREAS**, not all VA medical centers and Community Based Outpatient Clinics are
7 able to provide the gender-specific necessities to provide even a minimal level of such
8 care.

9 **THEREFORE**, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA demands the VA immediately rectify
10 its deficiencies in the care and treatment in the ever increasing number of female veterans.

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VA REPEAL OF THE SERVICE OFFICER REVIEW PERIOD

1 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Veterans Affairs has eliminated the long-standing 48-hour
2 disability review period for Veterans' Service Officers, and

3 **WHEREAS**, this 48-hour window is vital to ensuring that submissions were done
4 properly and in the best interests of the veteran, and

5 **WHEREAS**, this period allowed the Veterans Service Officers time to review the
6 veterans' claims and served to help a veteran obtain the best decision possible on the first
7 time through the system.
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9 **THEREFORE**, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA insists that the Department of
10 Veterans Affairs rescind this blatantly unfair rule and allow Veterans Service Officers to do
11 their job and assist the veteran obtain the benefits and compensation due them.

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