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.
CHAIM SALOMON

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

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

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

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

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

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

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA calls upon the State Departments of Education to insist that the sacrifice of Chaim Salomon be mentioned in the school textbooks now being published for use throughout the United States.
EXPANSION OF RETAIL PHARMACY DISCOUNTS

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

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

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

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA calls upon the Department of Veterans Affairs to immediately commence the process of requiring retail pharmacies to sell prescription drugs to CHAMPVA veterans at the same price as the manufacturers sell their products directly to the VA.
FOREIGN NATIONALS WHO SERVED WITH THE UNITED STATES MILITARY

WHEREAS, in various times the United States has recruited foreign nationals to serve with the American military, and

WHEREAS, these foreign nationals suffered injuries and illnesses arising out of their service in our military, and

WHEREAS, these foreign nationals are in need of medical and mental health treatments for these war-borne injuries and illnesses, and

WHEREAS, these foreign nationals were left behind when the United States military withdrew from the area and caused to fend for themselves in an often-hostile environment where they may have been deemed as traitors to a government; and

WHEREAS, they often suffered torture or death for their allegiance to the United States, and

WHEREAS, they may have been promised refuge in the United States as a reward for their service.

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA call upon Congress to allow these veterans of service with the American military entry into the United States for the purpose of naturalization and to receive treatments for their service-connected illnesses and injuries, and

FURTHERMORE, it is suggested that these veterans be eligible for naturalization, irrespective of any current restrictions on naturalization.
HOMELESS VETERANS

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

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

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

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA supports efforts to have the homeless veterans deemed as a Special Needs Population.
MAJ. RICHARD STAR ACT (H.R. 5995)

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.
MEANS TEST FOR WWII VETERANS

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.
MODIFY THE FERES DOCTRINE

WHEREAS, Jewish War Veterans of the USA is aware of several cases of extreme medical malpractice concerning active duty military personnel; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court decision during the 1950s in the case Feres v. United States generally bars active duty servicemembers from pursuing claims against the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court declined to consider the case of Daniel v. the United States on 20 May 2019; and

WHEREAS, changing the array of VA earned benefits is not appropriate in this situation since that is not the purpose of the disability program; and

WHEREAS, given the Court’s continued unwillingness to reconsider Feres, legislative action is the only remedy; and

WHEREAS, some members of the current or 116th session of Congress have recognized this injustice and introduced the Military Medical Accountability Act of 2019 (H.R. 2422);

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA calls upon Congress to immediately pass the Military Medical Accountability Act (H.R. 2422) so as to give members of the Armed Forces redress in instances of gross medical malpractice.
RABBIS RETURN TO THE GERMAN ARMY

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

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

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

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

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA congratulates the Bundestag for
taking this step to meet the religious needs of the Jewish members of its military.
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.
SERVICE MEMBER AND VETERAN SUICIDES

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

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

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

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

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

FURTHERMORE, there be introduced a system whereby appropriate authorities can be notified that a member of the military or a veteran might be in danger to him/herself without any negative repercussions to the endangered individual or the person making such a report.
SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE VA

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 the 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.
SHORTFALLS OF MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR WOMEN VETERANS

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

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

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

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA demands the VA immediately rectify its deficiencies in the care and treatment in the ever increasing number of female veterans.
STAFFING SHORTAGES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS (VA)

WHEREAS, The Military Defense Authorization Act has provided for enhanced funding for the VA; and

WHEREAS, VA provides important support to thousands of veterans throughout the entire country; and

WHEREAS, the VA currently has thousands of vacancies nation-wide, especially healthcare professionals and administrators; and

WHEREAS, the VA is facing numerous retirements over the next few years; and

WHEREAS, the VA is losing staff faster than replacements are hired; and

WHEREAS, executing referrals into the civilian community will not fully address this looming crisis since many communities are underserved by private healthcare professionals; and

WHEREAS, this will result in the reduction of quality support and timely access for veterans; and

WHEREAS, targeted hiring bonuses and/or student loan repayment programs have assisted the U.S. Armed Forces to mitigate understrength specialties; and

WHEREAS, these hiring bonuses and - or student loan repayment programs are being considered by the federal government in areas such as cyber security;

THEREFORE, The Jewish War Veterans of the USA [JWV] urges Congress to pass appropriate legislation to allow the Department of Veterans Affairs to utilize targeted hiring bonuses and student loan repayment programs to attract future employees for the Department of Veterans Affairs.
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AMONG VETERANS

WHEREAS, a recent Rand Corporation study found that veterans are at a high risk for simultaneously suffering substance abuse and mental health problems, and

WHEREAS, the study found a nexus between substance abuse and mental health problems (including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) within the veterans’ population, and

WHEREAS, the study further found that many veterans within this population are turning to substance abuse as a means of self-medication and to avoid or numb themselves, and

WHEREAS, the study, also, found these veterans have poor relationships and physical and behavioral health problems, and

WHEREAS, this population often has difficulty obtaining the help they so desperately need, and

WHEREAS, the focus is too often of treatment is either one or the other issue rather than on the combined, and

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA demands that the Department of Veterans Affairs immediately provide treatment to all veterans that are confronting mental health and substance abuse in a fashion that addresses both issues simultaneously and assist these veterans become sober and integrated into society as productive citizens.
VA REPEAL OF THE SERVICE OFFICER REVIEW PERIOD

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

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

WHEREAS, this period allowed the Veterans Service Officers time to review the veterans’ claims and served to help a veteran obtain the best decision possible on the first time through the system.

THEREFORE, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA insists that the Department of Veterans Affairs rescind this blatantly unfair rule and allow Veterans Service Officers to do their job and assist the veteran obtain the benefits and compensation due them.