

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
October 18-19, 2006**

**Resolution No. 11: Alliance Defense Fund/Liberty Legal Institute And The Defense Of Veterans' Monuments Project**

Submitted by: Finance Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion has since its founding in 1919 dedicated itself to the defense of veterans and American values pursuant to its founding creed of "For God and Country" and the precepts of the Preamble of its Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Grateful communities across America, and the United States government itself, have established veterans monuments to honor the service and sacrifice of veterans, and The American Legion has traditionally assisted in the establishment, maintenance, care, or defense of those veterans monuments; and

WHEREAS, Many of those veterans monuments include symbols of America's religious history and heritage, or expressions of religion, in tribute to veterans, including without limitation at America's National Cemeteries, and overseas at Normandy Beach and other cemeteries in theatres of war, and at such singular veterans monuments as the Mojave Desert WWI Veterans Memorial and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; and

WHEREAS, Certain special interest groups adhering to a secular humanist creed, including particularly the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), have engaged in litigation attacks under the Establishment of Religion Clause against the Boy Scouts of America, the public display of the Ten Commandments and other symbols of America's religious history and heritage, including to remove or destroy religious symbols or expressions at veterans monuments, including at the Mojave Desert WWI Veterans Memorial; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion, in defense of veterans memorials and in opposition to the secular cleansing litigation of the ACLU, and others, adopted by unanimous vote Resolution 326, Preserve Mojave Desert WWI Veterans Memorial; and

WHEREAS, The Alliance Defense Fund ("ADF") and Liberty Legal Institute ("LLI"), non-profit legal defense organizations whose mission is the defense of traditional American values, particularly religious freedom and expression, have offered and agreed to provide their legal services to The American Legion, on terms specified by The American Legion, and without cost to The American Legion, in a cooperative working relationship to establish and maintain a defense of veterans monuments project; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Executive Committee assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 18 and 19, 2006, That The American Legion, acting in a cooperative working relationship with the Alliance Defense Fund and Liberty Legal Institute, on terms specified by The American Legion, and without cost to The American Legion for legal services, establish and maintain a defense of veterans monuments project to include a data base of veterans memorials throughout the Nation; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That \$20,000 be approved for direct mailings to post, district and department leadership informing them of the legal service available at “no cost” to their communities as well as for maintenance of the veterans memorials database; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That after review by the National Judge Advocate for legal sufficiency of said agreement between Alliance Defense Fund and Liberty Legal Institute and The American Legion, the National Commander be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement, and that the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest same.**