

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
August 27, 28, 29, 2019**

**Resolution No. 40: Gold Star Children Access To Base Exchange, Commissaries And  
MWR Facilities**

**Origin: Florida**

**Submitted by: Convention Committee on National Security**

WHEREAS, The American Legion (TAL) and the nation have a responsibility to ease the grief of children who have survived the loss of a parent that died in the performance of military service; and

WHEREAS, A historic role of TAL has been to support the entire military "family," including widows and surviving children; and

WHEREAS, The Headquarters, Defense Human Resources Activity, has informed TAL, that the current policy of the Department of Defense (DoD) is to end their access to Base Exchange, Commissary and Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities upon the survivor's attaining an age of 21 to 23 years (DoD Manual 1000.13,Vol.1); and

WHEREAS, The death of a military parent is a permanent loss to the surviving dependent, the current policy merely extends benefits temporarily; and

WHEREAS, These benefits aiding the children of our fallen comrades will support the morale of active troops and support the military family; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, August 27, 28, 29, 2019, That The American Legion shall sponsor and support efforts to ensure the Base Exchange, Commissary and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) access for all (Gold Star) children of servicemembers who died on active military duty, regardless of age will not cease.**