

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

**Resolution No. 26: Amending The POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony  
Origin: Connecticut  
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Internal Affairs**

WHEREAS, The American Legion is the nation's largest veterans service organization, which firmly believes that no comrade should be left behind, which is why it is important for The American Legion to remember our POW/MIAs; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion performs the POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony at all official meetings as a reminder to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity, the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty, and a full accounting of those missing; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 288, titled "Support "Empty Chair" Program (POW/MIA)", calls for the implementation of the POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony at all official meetings of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 288 was adopted at The American Legion's 67th National Convention; and

WHEREAS, The POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony currently reads, "...the thousands of American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for..."; and

WHEREAS, Due to fluctuations which may increase or decrease the actual number of American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for, from all conflicts with the United States of America; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, August 27, 28, 29, 2019, That in the POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony, the phrase "...the thousands of American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for..." be changed to read "...the many American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for..."; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That any and all American Legion publications that contain the POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony be updated to reflect this change.**