

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
October 14-15, 2020
Virtual**

**Resolution No. 36: Mission Blue Post Assistance Program
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission
Submitted by: Finance Commission
(As amended)**

WHEREAS, The United States of America is facing a public health crisis unseen since 1918 called the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, State and local public health protection ordinances place a limit on American Legion posts ability to derive support from its members and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, The financial damage created as a result of those public health protection ordinances will be felt for many years; and

WHEREAS, A post is the backbone of The American Legion and the financial stability of a post is necessary to complete the missions of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion desires to be of assistance to posts impacted by public health ordinances related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion National Emergency Fund was established to provide grants to American Legion posts in times of disaster and emergency; and

WHEREAS, The Internal Affairs Commission and Finance Commission has recommended approval; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the national commander is hereby authorized to establish a grant program titled “Mission Blue Post Assistance Program” which will provide \$1,000 grants to applying and qualified American Legion posts impacted by the government’s public health protection restrictions implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the national commander shall direct the Internal Affairs Commission through its Internal Affairs Division to screen, certify and cause grants to be distributed to qualifying posts; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an American Legion post will be eligible for a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant after verification by the American Legion department adjutant that the post meets the criteria and requirements, which are listed here:

- 1. A post must have a consolidated post report on file.**
- 2. A post must have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.**
- 3. A post must have filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the department.**
- 4. A post must have actively participated in one or more American Legion program(s) within the last 18 months.**
- 5. A post must have a financial need.**

6. A post must provide a certificate of insurance naming The American Legion dba American Legion National Headquarters as an additional insured.
7. A post must provide documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the funds from a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant shall be used exclusively for the following:

1. Current and past due mortgage principal and interest,
2. Current and past due real estate rents,
3. Current and past due insurance premiums, and
4. Current and past due utilities; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an American Legion post receiving a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant will be required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the funds were used; and the report shall be signed by the post finance officer and certified by the post commander or post adjutant; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That payment for a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant shall be made available by funding in The American Legion National Emergency Fund; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That no more than \$5,000,000 (\$5 million dollars) shall be expended from The American Legion National Emergency Fund for the Mission Blue Post Assistance Program, except that donations from elsewhere specifically designated to fulfill the intent of the program may be applied to same without limitation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion may solicit donations for the Mission Blue Post Assistance Program from any sources as may be available provided that any and all monies raised shall be used to augment the \$5,000,000 commitment from The American Legion National Emergency Fund; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Finance Commission is authorized to make any changes to the program as it sees fit to carry out the intent of this resolution provided that the National Executive Committee is provided notification of changes made at its next regularly scheduled meeting.