

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

**Resolution No. 5: Engraving Military Insignia on Government-Furnished Headstones
Origin: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission
Submitted by: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

WHEREAS, Abbreviations for military ranks, branches of service and military decorations are currently engraved on government-furnished headstones; and

WHEREAS, The Medal of Honor insignia is allowed to be inscribed on such headstones, in recognition of those who have received America's highest honor for bravery in combat; and

WHEREAS, Emblems of Belief (EOBs) were authorized for display on such headstones by the War Memorial Protection Act, passed by Congress in 2013; and

WHEREAS, The inclusion of military insignia on such headstones would have a positive impact on the dignity and solemnity of national cemeteries honoring those who served our country; and

WHEREAS, Military insignia are often engraved on headstones for veterans laid to rest in public cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, Laser technology, widely used in the monument industry since the 1990s, has made headstone inscriptions substantially more cost-effective; 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 American Legion urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to authorize the engraving of military insignia for combat-related decorations on government-furnished headstones; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That such authorization will pertain to all combat-related decorations, including the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Air Force Cross, Coast Guard Cross, Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal with "V" device (for valor), Purple Heart Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Combat Action Ribbon and Combat Medical Badge.