

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
October 6-7, 2021  
Indianapolis, Indiana**

**Resolution No. 4: Support Department of Defense Directive 1344.10 and The Hatch Act of 1939**  
**Origin: National Security Commission**  
**Submitted by: National Security Commission**

WHEREAS, One of the purposes of The American Legion, congressionally chartered on September 16, 1919, was “To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America,” and that has not changed 102 years later; and

WHEREAS, One of the valued principles in The American Legion’s mission statement is “American Values and Patriotism” meaning “The American Legion advocates for upholding and defending the United States Constitution...”; and

WHEREAS, American Legion members, having served in America’s armed forces, took an oath “...to defend the Constitution of the United States of America, against all enemies, foreign and domestic...;” an oath that has been taken since 1775 with some revision; and

WHEREAS, Certain documents such as Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 1344.10 and the Hatch Act of 1939 (revised in 1993) direct the military to maintain a nonpartisan position regarding politics; and

WHEREAS, Over the last decade with the increased polarization of the political climate in our nation, the instances of violations of the Hatch Act and DoD Directive 1344.10 have become more prolific; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 6-7, 2021, That as the largest veteran service organization, The American Legion reinforce the Hatch Act and Department of Defense Directive 1344.10, which serve a vital purpose to ensure military forces remain nonpartisan, including military leaders at all levels of the armed forces.**