

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
May 4-5, 2022
Indianapolis, Indiana**

Resolution No. 19: Enhancing the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) for Veteran Workers and Military Spouses

Origin: Veterans Employment & Education Commission

Submitted by: Veterans Employment & Education Commission

WHEREAS, Some veterans experience challenges transitioning into the private sector workforce due to a variety of factors after they conclude their time in the service, often resulting in unemployment or underemployment; and

WHEREAS, There were an estimated 581,000 unemployed veterans in 2020, according to the U.S. Department of Labor; and

WHEREAS, The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), a tax credit issued by the federal government, is designed to incentivize private-sector employers to hire among target groups that consistently face difficulty in finding stable employment; and

WHEREAS, Qualified unemployed veterans are one of the 10 groups eligible for the WOTC program; and WHEREAS, The current WOTC program provides a tax credit of 40% for the first \$6,000 of wages, providing around \$2,400 in subsidies over the course of the first year of a veteran's employment; and

WHEREAS, The WOTC credit rate has not been adjusted since the program was created 25 years ago; and

WHEREAS, There is a high employment rate among military spouses largely due to the frequent relocation required with military service; and

WHEREAS, Small businesses, veterans, and military spouses seeking employment have much to gain from an expansion of the WOTC program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 4-5, 2022, That The American Legion supports boosting the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) to 50% for the first \$10,000 of wages through December 31, 2023, for All Hiring Groups for the first two years of employment; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion supports including military spouses as an eligible target group under the WOTC program: and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 14, October 6-7, 2021, Titled: Enhancing the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) for Veteran Workers, is hereby superseded and rescinded.