

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
August 30, 31, September 1, 2022**

Resolution No. 3: Designate U.S. Highway 20 as the National Medal of Honor Highway

Origin: Nebraska

Submitted by: Convention Committee on Internal Affairs

WHEREAS, The Medal of Honor award was signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln in 1861 and 1862; and

WHEREAS, 3,511 members of the armed forces of the United States have been awarded the Medal of Honor, our nation's highest award for valor for acting with conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty at the risk of one's life during wars against enemies of the United States; and

WHEREAS, During 2017-2018, the nonprofit Bend Heroes Foundation managed creation of the 451-mile border-to-border Oregon Medal of Honor Highway across Oregon on U.S. Highway 20 honoring all of Oregon's 29 Medal of Honor recipients of all wars and was the first state in our nation to do such; and

WHEREAS, During the 5-year period 2018-2022, Bend Heroes Foundation managed creation of the Medal of Honor Highway Across America through 12-states located along the 3,565-mile coast-to-coast U.S. Highway 20, the longest highway in our nation; and

WHEREAS, Numerous American Legion posts and departments across our nation have supported or led designations of the 12-state Medal of Honor Highways which complement one of the purposes stated in the American Legion's Preamble: "To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars"; and

WHEREAS, Each of the 12-state Medal of Honor Highways honors the state's Medal of Honor recipients and recipients from any state who travel on it; and

WHEREAS, The 12-state Medal of Honor Highways along U.S. Highway 20 collectively honor about two-thirds of our nation's 3,511 Medal of Honor recipients with the remaining thirty-eight states accounting for about one-third of all awardees; and

WHEREAS, The United States Congress designated the coast-to-coast Lincoln and Eisenhower Highways honoring two former commanders-in-chief who either created or presented Medal of Honor awards during war; and

WHEREAS, Not a single highway across the United States has been designated by the United States Congress to honor all of our nation's Medal of Honor recipients since the Medal of Honor award was created 161 years ago; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 30, 31, September 1, 2022, That the American Legion national organization encourage the United States Congress to designate the coast-to-coast U.S. Highway 20 as the "National Medal of Honor Highway" and require appropriate highway signage including display of the three versions of the Medal of Honor medal on all signs; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a National Medal of Honor Highway will raise public awareness of the Medal of Honor award and the bravery of our nation's war heroes, an objective of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society chartered by Congress; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That designating the Newport, Oregon to Boston, Massachusetts coast-to-coast U.S. Highway 20 as the National Medal of Honor Highway by the United States Congress would honor all of our nation's current and future Medal of Honor recipients and promote education of the traveling public on the "bravest of the brave" American war veterans.