

**2NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
October 12-13, 2022
Indianapolis, Indiana**

**Resolution No. 22: Support for Veterans Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP)
Expansion**

Origin: Veterans Employment & Education Commission

Submitted by: Veterans Employment & Education Commission

WHEREAS The Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP) serves as an avenue to reintegrate back into the labor market for veterans lacking education benefits who became unemployed due to the global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, VRRAP is scheduled to sunset on December 11, 2022, or when it reaches its funding/participant limit; and

WHEREAS, As of August 1, half the funding has been spent, about 6,800 veterans had enrolled in the program, and only 397 participants found employment; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Veterans Affairs is on track to refund the remaining allotment allocated for the program to the Treasury when the program sunsets; and

WHEREAS, VRRAP's program design, from ambiguously defining unemployed workers, to making workers older than 66 ineligible from qualifying, diminished the likelihood of attracting students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 12-13, 2022, That Congress work with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Labor and American Job Centers to increase Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP) outreach to meet the funding or participation limits; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Legion urges Congress to extend the VRRAP pilot program past the current sunset date; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Congress eliminate the program eligibility cutoff age of 66 to provide older veterans access to the educational benefit; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the focus of the VRRAP program should change to include all unemployed and underemployed veterans.