

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
MAY 1-2, 1996**

**Resolution No. 19: Proposed History Standards
Origin: Americanism Commission
Submitted by: Americanism Commission**

WHEREAS, The standards proposed by the National Center for History in the Schools for the teaching of United States history and world history ("the proposed history standards") present an inaccurate, misleading, and distorted characterization of United States history and world history; and

WHEREAS, The proposed history standards denigrate the critical role of the United States in providing a beacon of freedom and opportunity for millions of people from countries all over the world; and

WHEREAS, The proposed history standards minimize the significance of the constitutional system of the United States as the foundation for the liberty and abundance of the United States and as a model for people around the world seeking freedom and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, The proposed history standards diminish the scientific, medical, and technological accomplishments of the outstanding people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The proposed history standards trivialize the role of the United States during the 20th century as a world leader in combating communist and fascist totalitarianism; and

WHEREAS, The National Standards and Improvement Council, which would have certified voluntary national content and student performance standards, has not been empowered to certify the proposed history standards; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 1-2, 1996, That The American Legion disapproves of the standards proposed by the National Center for History in the Schools for the teaching of United States history and world history ("the proposed history standards"); and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion encourages the United States Department of Education that: (A) the proposed history standards should not be released to school districts or State education boards under the pretense of constituting official national standards; (B) the National Center for History in the Schools should inform any school districts or State education boards to which the proposed history standards have been released that such standards are not official national standards; and (C) the proposed history standards should not be used as a basis for developing voluntary national content or student performance standards or for developing criteria for the certification of such standards on the subject of United States history or world history.