

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
MAY 2-3, 1995**

Resolution No. 8: Authorization for Additional Flag Campaign Appropriation
Origin: Americanism Commission
Submitted by: Finance Commission

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 355 (1989 National Convention) mandates The American Legion to seek a proposed amendment to the Constitution to allow Congress and the states to enact laws making the physical desecration of the Flag of the United States of America a criminal offense; and

WHEREAS, Congress has not yet enacted such a proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion has successfully secured memorializing resolutions in 49 states asking Congress to propose an amendment to the Constitution allowing the Congress and the states to enact laws to prohibit the physical desecration of the Flag, and to send such an amendment to the states for ratification; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary founded The Citizens Flag Alliance, Inc. to garner and focus grass roots support and said coalition now comprises 97 member organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens Flag Alliance, Inc. has been successful in causing a flag protection amendment to be drafted with language satisfactory to the primary sponsors in both houses of Congress; and

WHEREAS, That language was introduced in the Congress as House Joint Resolution 79 and Senate Joint Resolution 31 on March 21, 1995; and

WHEREAS, HJR 79 has 256 cosponsors in the House and SJR 31 has 52 cosponsors in the Senate; and

WHEREAS, The strategy developed by The American Legion working in concert with Burson-Marsteller has produced the aforementioned successes; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion is desirous of extending the fullest possible support to this campaign in order to see it to a successful conclusion; and

WHEREAS, Additional funding is required in the amount of \$2,877,000 to continue the campaign through December 1995; and

WHEREAS, The National Americanism Commission and the National Finance Commission have reviewed this resolution and recommend its approval; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 2-3, 1995, That The American Legion, in continuing support of efforts to secure a constitutional amendment to prohibit the physical desecration of the Flag of the United States of America, provide, in addition to the \$3,500,000 previously authorized for said campaign, an additional \$2,877,000 for the following purposes:

- **to fund public relations and lobbying counsel;**
- **to fund outside services and fees;**

- •to pay for normal and customary travel and associated expenses;
- •to fund the development and distribution of campaign materials;
- •to fund The Citizens Flag Alliance, Inc. office and staff;
- •to fund such activities not specifically enumerated that may be later considered essential to the success of the campaign; and
- •to conduct fundraising operations directed at both the membership of The American Legion and the general public;

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That all conditions governing funding of this campaign, as enumerated in National Executive Committee Resolution 20, "Authorization for Expenditure of Funds for Flag Amendment Campaign," May 4-5, 1994, except references to specific dollar amounts, will govern receipt and expenditure of funds appertaining to the flag amendment campaign; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the National Commander shall have authority to expend additional moneys he deems necessary to fulfill the intent of this resolution, provided that such expenditures in the aggregate do not exceed resources raised by fundraising efforts or provided by The American Legion for passage of a flag-protection amendment by more than \$500,000 per year, and that full disclosure is presented to the National Executive Committee and the National Finance Commission at future regularly scheduled meetings.