

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
OCTOBER 17 – 18, 2012**

**Resolution No. 34: Department VA Voluntary Service Coordinators
Origin: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission
Submitted by: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission**

WHEREAS, The December 2011 change to the Charter of The American Legion has created the need to edit the language within certain resolutions of the organization in order to bring a resolution into compliance with the Charter, the subject herein being one such resolutions; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion is a highly regarded member organization of the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) program and holds membership on its National Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, In the last program year over 7,574 Legion regularly scheduled volunteers provided 909,137 hours of service on behalf of our hospitalized veterans, valued in excess of \$17 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, This is an huge responsibility and as the need for volunteers continues to grow, The American Legion must increase our level of commitment, not only to recruit additional volunteers but to ensure the responsible management of those volunteers; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, a survey was distributed to all VAVS Representatives and Deputy Representatives, which indicated that communication between National Headquarters office and their local communities could be improved; and

WHEREAS, The current requirements of state leadership over the VAVS Representatives and Deputies vary by state and in some cases, Department Service Officers, Commanders and/or Adjutants do not have a single coordinator to act as a liaison for the Department to ensure the flow of communication from local levels and national; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 17-18, 2012, That the Departments be encouraged to submit the name and contact information of a duly appointed Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Department Coordinator, under the Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Department Committee who will provide leadership and support for all Certified Representatives and Deputies within their respective departments; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the contact information for the VAVS Coordinator should be forwarded to the National Headquarters after the Department elections.