

**NINETY-SEVENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Baltimore, Maryland
September 1, 2, 3, 2015**

**Resolution No. 3: Increase in National Per Capita Dues of The American Legion
Origin: Resolution No. 4 (NEC) May 2015
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Finance**

WHEREAS, The National per capita dues remained constant at \$13.50 since January 10, 2007, although our nation has experienced a cumulative inflation rate of 13% during that time, and inflation continues to erode the value of the dollar; and

WHEREAS, Membership has declined 16.01% resulting in \$5,679,896 less dues revenue; and

WHEREAS, The national organization, by practicing prudent fiscal management, including increasing income from fundraising, increasing income from royalties and, improving the efficiency of DMS, has been able to absorb rising costs through 2015, but will no longer be able to do so; and

WHEREAS, The national organization has a current unencumbered cash reserve of \$13.3 million which is estimated to provide for operations for two years with no ability to provide for contingencies; and

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the National Executive Committee of The American Legion that a per capita dues increase is necessary in 2016 in order to ensure solvency for the national organization, and, in the absence of a per capita dues increase, the national organization will be forced to curtail drastically some of its traditional and long-standing programs; and

WHEREAS, The National Executive Committee of The American Legion, upon recommendation of the National Finance Commission, did at its regular meeting held in Indianapolis, Indiana on May 6-7, 2015, express its opinion that without a dues increase for the year 2016 the National Organization will be forced to curtail its traditional and long-standing programs, and did adopt a resolution recommending an increase in the national per capita dues for the year 2016; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, September 1, 2, 3, 2015, That the national per capita dues for the calendar year 2016 be fixed in the amount of \$18.50, provided that any 2016 dues paid at the old rate of \$13.50 shall be accepted if remitted by the Departments to the National Organization by close of business January 20, 2016, which is the mid-winter 80% target date; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That rates established for purchase of a paid-up-for-life membership shall remain at the current rate until June 1, 2016, at which time the Finance Commission shall adjust the rate to reflect prudent actuarial assumptions.