

**FIFTY-NINTH NATIONAL CONVENTION  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Denver, Colorado  
August 23, 24, 25, 1977**

**Resolution No. 124: Change Delinquency Dates for Members of The American Legion**

**Origin: Resolution No. 28 (NEC) October 1976**

**Submitted by: Convention Committee on Constitutional Amendments**

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 4, of the National By-Laws of the American Legion reads as follows:

“A member whose dues for the current year have not been paid by February first shall be classes as delinquent. If his dues are paid on or before April first, he shall be automatically reinstated. If he is still delinquent after April first, he shall be suspended from all privileges. If he is still under such suspension on December thirty-first of such year, his membership in The American Legion shall be forfeited. A member so suspended or whose membership has been so forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by vote of the post and payment of current dues for the year in which the reinstatement occurs. Provided, however, that the posts, departments and the National Organization may waive the provisions hereof, upon payment of dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs, with reference to former members who have been prevented from the payment of dues by reason of active military service.”; and

WHEREAS, Delinquent dues can be paid as late as April 1, with automatic reinstatement guaranteed; and

WHEREAS, In many department membership drives are now starting as early as June for the following year; and

WHEREAS, This has created a situation where for practical purposes a one year membership dues covers a period of approximately twenty-one months which has proved a deterrent to successful membership drives; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Denver, Colorado, August 23, 24, 25, 1977, That Article IV, Section 4, of the National By-Laws of The American Legion be amended to read as follows: (Changed wording underscored).**

“A member whose dues for the current year have not been paid by January first shall be classes as delinquent. If his dues are paid on or before February first, he shall be automatically reinstated. If he is still delinquent after February first, he shall be suspended from all privileges. If he is still under such suspension on June thirtieth of such year, his membership in The American Legion shall be forfeited. A member so suspended or whose membership has been so forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by vote of the post and payment of current dues for the year in which the reinstatement occurs. Provided, however, that the posts, departments and the National Organization may waive the provisions hereof, upon payment of dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs, with reference to former members who have been prevented from the payment of dues by reason of active military service.”; and be it finally

**RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution proposing amendment to the National By-Laws of The American Legion, be forwarded to the National Adjutant of The American Legion with a request that he cause it to be circulated to the several department and members of the National Executive Committee of The American Legion by mailing the same to them at least twenty (20) days prior to the convening of the next National Convention, all as provided for under Article VIII of the National By-Laws of The American Legion.**