

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
October 10-11, 1984**

**Resolution No. 23: Definition of Gold Star Mother and Gold Star Member
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission
Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission**

WHEREAS, The National Convention of The American Legion held in Portland, Oregon, in 1932 established a definition for a Gold Star Mother; and

WHEREAS, Said definition has been subsequently amended by actions of the National Executive Committee to include the periods of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, The definition should now be further amended to list the dates of the Vietnam War as listed in the National Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 10-11, 1984, That the definition of Gold Star Mother and Member be stated as follows:

Gold Star Mother shall mean the mother of one who was regularly enlisted, drafted, inducted or commissioned and who was accepted for and assigned to active duty in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or Air Force of the United States at some time during any of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950, to January 31, 1955; December 22, 1961, to May 7, 1975; all dates inclusive, or who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of his entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of said wars or hostilities; who did not refuse on conscientious, political or other grounds to subject himself to military discipline or unqualified service; or who was separated from service under circumstances amounting to dishonorable discharge, which has been subsequently restored to an honorable status, and who died during such service, or who died prior to July 2, 1921 (the legal termination of the war), with reference to service in World War I, or prior to April 28, 1952, the former declaration of peace by the United States Government with reference to service in World War II, or on or before January 31, 1955 (the date set by the Government of the United States as the termination of hostilities for compensation purposes), with reference to service during the war which commenced June 25, 1950, or on or before May 7, 1975, (the date set by the Government of the United States in Public Law 96-155 for the termination of combat activities), with reference to service during the hostilities which commenced December 22, 1961, his death having been attributable to his service; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Gold Star Member means the widow, sister, or daughter of one who died under conditions set forth in the definition of Gold Star Mother; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That this resolution shall supersede and replace all resolutions or portions thereof heretofore adopted by The American Legion which may be in conflict with the provisions of this resolution.