

**NINETY-EIGHTH NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Cincinnati, Ohio
August 30, 31, September 1, 2016**

**Resolution No. 243: Compensation for Veterans Requiring Hearing Aids for Service
Connected Hearing Loss**

Origin: Illinois

Submitted by: Convention Committee on Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

WHEREAS, The American Legion is a national organization of veterans who have dedicated themselves to the service of their community, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, After veterans are released from service they are able to apply for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) compensation for their injuries and illnesses related to their active duty service; and

WHEREAS, The VA uses a standard schedule of ratings to determine the percent of disability compensation to assign; and

WHEREAS, Many veterans have suffered hearing loss from service due to loud noise exposure; and

WHEREAS, Many of these veterans are granted a 0% service-connected rating and this authorizes the VA hospital to furnish these veterans hearing aids as needed; and

WHEREAS, These hearing aids must be kept clean, properly stored when not in use, adjusted periodically and have batteries replaced when needed; and

WHEREAS, Although minor, these chores and maintenance do impact on a veteran's quality of life and loss of income on a daily basis and therefore should warrant a minimum compensable rating; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Cincinnati, Ohio, August 30, 31, September 1, 2016, That The American Legion support legislation to grant a minimum 10% rating for all veterans, who, due to their service-connected hearing loss, are furnished hearing aids.