

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

Resolution No. 318: Ensuring the Quality of Servicemember and Veteran Student's Education at Institutions of Higher Education

Origin: Convention Committee on Veterans Employment & Education

Submitted by: Convention Committee on Veterans Employment & Education

WHEREAS, The American Legion has been encouraged by the growing recognition within Congress of the need to make basic, but critical information about the return on investment in higher education available to student-veterans; and

WHEREAS, Servicemembers and veteran students are changing the discourse of how a growing need for interdisciplinary efforts are needed within institutions of higher learning; and

WHEREAS, Servicemembers and veterans utilizing the GI Bill, Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA), and other education benefits are given certain parameters regarding the way the money is used, the amount of money which can be used, and the time in which the money can be used; and

WHEREAS, Student characteristics and outcomes, along with the changing dynamics of education issues affect servicemembers, veterans, and their families differently at public, nonprofit, and for-profit schools; and

WHEREAS, Congressional committees, Department of Veterans Affairs, veterans service organizations, state approving agencies, educational organizations, and educational institutions all need to work together to ensure veterans are fully aware of the educational opportunities provided for them; 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 seek and support any legislative or administrative proposal that improves, but not limited to, the GI Bill, Department of Defense Tuition Assistance (TA), Higher Education Title IV funding (i.e., Pell Grants, student loans, etc.) and education benefits so servicemembers, veterans, and their families can maximize its usage; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion urge Congress to find a solution that ensures colleges and universities that receive federal tuition payments grant priority enrollment to those individuals who qualify for either the Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits.