

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

**Resolution No. 107: Support Armed Services Retirement Homes  
Origin: Maryland  
Submitted by: Convention Committee on National Security**

WHEREAS, The Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH), formally known as United States Soldiers' and Airmen's Home (USSAH) and the United States Naval Home (USNH), is a pair of continuing care facilities which was created more than 150 years ago to offer retirement homes for distinguished veterans who had served as soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines in our nation's conflicts; and

WHEREAS, Persons are eligible to become residents of AFRH who served as members of the Armed Forces, at least one-half of whose service was not active commissioned service (other than as a warrant officer or limited-duty officer), are eligible to become residents of the Retirement Home: are 60 years of age or over; and were discharged or released from service in the Armed Forces under honorable conditions after 20 or more years of active service; persons who are determined under rules prescribed by the chief operating officer to be incapable of earning a livelihood because of a service-connected disability incurred in the line of duty in the Armed Forces; served in a war theater during a time of war declared by Congress or were eligible for hostile fire special pay were discharged or released from service in the Armed Forces under honorable conditions; and are determined under rules prescribed by the chief operating officer to be incapable of earning a livelihood because of injuries, disease, or disability; served in a women's component of the Armed Forces before June 12, 1948; and are determined under rules prescribed by the chief operating officer to be eligible for admission because of compelling personal circumstances; and

WHEREAS, A person who has been convicted of a felony or is not free of drug, alcohol, or psychiatric problems shall be ineligible to become a resident of the Retirement Home; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to 24 U.S. Code and 37 U.S. Code, monthly pay deductions of \$1.00 from every enlisted member, warrant officer, and limited-duty officer provide a substantial stream of revenue, among other sources of support, fund the AFRH; and

WHEREAS, The extensive downsizing of the Armed Forces due to the Budget Control Act of 2011 and associated sequestration is subsequently resulting in the reduction in the number of military personnel; and

WHEREAS, The current and upcoming reductions in end-strength evidently will reduce revenue and, coupled with rising nursing home care costs are a cause for concern which would potentially require both locations of the AFRH (Gulfport, Mississippi and Washington, D.C.) to close their doors; 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 urge Congress to continue support and fund those measures, to include annual appropriations, which will provide for the long-term solvency and viability of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.**