

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
OCTOBER 12-13, 2016**

Resolution No. 6: Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee

Origin: Americanism Commission

Submitted By: Finance Commission

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 59, titled “Urging the National American Legion to Establish a National Junior Law Cadet ‘Law & Order’ Program,” adopted at the 1985 National Convention directed that The American Legion conduct a feasibility study of such a program in order to stimulate respect for law enforcement, patriotism and responsible citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 27, titled “Junior Law Cadet ‘Law & Order’ Program,” adopted at the 1987 Fall Meeting of the National Executive Committee proposed that The American Legion adopt the concept of this program as an annual Americanism program and each department be urged to implement such a Junior Law Cadet “Law & Order” program; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 13, titled “Proponency for the Junior Law Cadet ‘Law and Order’ Program,” adopted at the 1990 Fall Meeting of the National Executive Committee assigned proponency for the Junior Law Cadet “Law and Order” program to the Law and Order Committee of the National Security Commission; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 52, titled “Department Junior Law Cadet Programs,” adopted at the 2005 National Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii, urged departments to develop Junior Law Cadet programs and that a national program be eventually established; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 37, titled “Junior Law Cadet Program” adopted by the National Executive Committee on May 4-5, 2011, had the proponency and administration of the Junior Law Cadet Program transferred from the National Security Commission to the Americanism Commission; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 30 adopted by the National Executive Committee on May 7-8, 2014, changed the name of The American Legion Junior Law Cadet Program to The American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program; and

WHEREAS, American Legion departments have been encouraged to sponsor Youth Cadet Law Enforcement programs in cooperation with their state police or highway patrol, of which the names of department programs have varied to include such terms as the Student Trooper Program, Trooper Week Program, Law Enforcement Training, etc.; and

WHEREAS, The program may be made available to high school students who have completed their junior year and are in good academic standing and possess good moral character and the desire to learn more about the law enforcement profession; and

WHEREAS, Program content may vary across the departments however most programs include classroom law enforcement training, hands-on police training and physical fitness training; and

WHEREAS, Currently only 19 American Legion departments have a Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program and the vision is for the vast majority to have this program; and

WHEREAS, While the Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program is sound at its core, it is to the benefit of The American Legion to ensure continued growth, and accessibility of American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program participants and departments; and

WHEREAS, The Americanism Commission, Internal Affairs Commission and the Finance Commission have each adopted this resolution and recommend it to the National Executive Committee for favorable action; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 12-13, 2016, That the national commander is hereby authorized to formally establish a Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee shall develop, coordinate, facilitate and foster strategies to promote development, sustainability, growth and viability of the Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee shall report to the Americanism Commission; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman and not to exceed five (5) other members selected from the Americanism Commission or from at large; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the chairman shall not be appointed from among the members of the committee and the vice chairman shall be appointed from among the members of the committee; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That at its fall meeting each year, the National Executive Committee shall appoint, upon nomination by the national commander, the chairman, vice chairman and not to exceed five (5) other members of the committee to serve in such capacity for one year; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the national commander is authorized to make such interim appointments as may be required to fill vacancies in unexpired terms, subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee at its next ensuing meeting; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That there is authorized to be affiliated with this committee one (1) or more consultants who may either be a representative of The American Legion or a non-member of The American Legion, and who shall be appointed for term of one year, or until the close of the next succeeding fall meeting of the National Executive Committee; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the total composition of the committee shall consist of those with a strong background in law enforcement and/or experience with youth programs; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the chairman of the Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee will be a member or an ex-officio member of the Americanism Commission as applicable; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That purposes of this committee are:

- **To formulate and recommend guidelines (administrative and safety), policies, strategic plans and activities of The American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program**
- **To review and be familiar with the resolutions pertaining to The American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program**
- **To promote The American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program and its principles**
- **To develop and engage in methodology encouraging those departments without an American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program to establish one**
- **To promote uniform branding of The American Legion in prominence in all Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Programs**
- **To work towards the ultimate goal of establishing a national capstone program**
- **Such other purposes as may be assigned to it by the Americanism Commission; and, be it further**

RESOLVED, That the Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee be authorized to meet at the same time the Americanism Commission meets; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the “Outline of Authorization: Membership and Purpose for Commissions and Committees” shall be updated to reflect the above.