

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
MAY 10 - 11, 2017**

Resolution No. 16: National Global War on Terrorism Memorial
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission
Submitted By: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, One of the founding principles of The American Legion is, “To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars”; and

WHEREAS, From September 2001 through present, more than 2.8 million American soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen answered the call to aggressively pursue our nation’s enemies on fronts across the globe; and

WHEREAS, With an all-volunteer force they continue to fight in America’s longest war, which has so far resulted in more than 6,900 deaths and 50,000 wounded as a result of their commitment to freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, The Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation, a nonprofit organization incorporated in the state of Pennsylvania, is seeking congressional approval to build a memorial in Washington, D.C., to remember the selfless contributions of multiple generations of Americans who have served and sacrificed over the past two decades, and to educate future generations of Americans and citizens around the globe about the fight against terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Senator Joni Ernst (IA) introduced Senate Bill 926, Congressmen Mike Gallagher (WI-8) and Seth Moulton (MA-6) introduced H.R. 873 in the 115th Congress, a bipartisan bill that will authorize the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation to lead the organizing efforts for the memorial and amend the Commemorative Works Act of 1986 to waive the 10-year requirement after ending of war to build a memorial by summer 2024; and

WHEREAS, The erection of this memorial should be funded through donations from the private sector and voluntary individual donations and at no cost to the federal government of the United States or the District of Columbia or from the corporate body of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion is in favor of honoring these veterans with such a memorial; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 10-11, 2017, That The American Legion goes on record to support waiver of the 10-year requirement after ending of war to start the process for construction of a memorial dedicated to Global War on Terror veterans in our nation’s capital without financial obligation by The American Legion and to allow the site selection process to start soonest; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion would support the American Battle Monuments Commission, if recommended, to serve as the administer because of their expertise in coordinating the erection of previous national monuments in the National Capital Region for fundraising, design and construction of the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That our national American Legion media channels be utilized to advance awareness to our membership on the progress of the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial.