

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 9-10, 2018**

Resolution No. 12: Accountability and Enhancements of Transition Assistance Program; Outcomes and Delivery for Today's Digital Transitioning Servicemembers

Origin: Veterans Employment & Education Commission

Submitted By: Veterans Employment & Education Commission

WHEREAS, Public Law 101-510, codified in sections 1141-1150 of Title 10, United States Code, authorized comprehensive transition assistance benefits and services for separating servicemembers and their spouses and required that Transition Assistance Program (TAP) employment workshops be established and maintained; and

WHEREAS, TAP employment workshops are mandatory for all servicemembers prior to separating from active-duty; and

WHEREAS, The new and improved TAP curriculum includes additional career-specific capstone courses in (1) an Education track; (2) a Technical and Skills Training track; and (3) an Entrepreneurship track; and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Veterans' Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives, 115th Congress Oversight Plan on the Effectiveness of the Transition Assistance Program continues to be concerned about the effectiveness of the TAP program and continues to conduct oversight hearings involving Government Accountability Office (GAO), Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Labor to evaluate outcomes and future enhancements; and

WHEREAS, The GAO review of the most recent iteration of TAP, at the request of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives, resulted in six recommendations, including that DoD improve transparency in reporting TAP participation and career readiness rates and monitor certain key areas of TAP implementation; and

WHEREAS, DoD and its services have identified "for life" programs that provide sustaining support for former military and their families; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion, whose goal is to ensure that America's veterans have the opportunity to provide, with honor and dignity, the economic necessities of life for themselves and their families, has established the Employment Innovation Task Force to look specifically at employment issues and identify, recommend, and help pilot innovative employment solutions for transitioning servicemembers and veterans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting, assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 9-10, 2018, That The American Legion urges Congress to mandate federal agencies to conduct a survey and assessment of the efficacy and efficiency of delivering "for life" support to veterans and transitioning servicemembers in the digital era; innovations responsive to the digital age warrior and digital era employer in the Transition Assistance Program (TAP); and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion urges Congress to establish services in support of veterans; identifying the best practices of the best veteran-friendly employers; using labor market and labor economic data to guide career goal setting for transitioning servicemembers; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion urges Congress to introduce the use of digital tools and skill drills to support just-in-time delivery of information, assistance, support, training, and skill development underlying the "for life" concept as well as TAP; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion urges Congress to ensure all outcomes to further the goal of providing a seamless transition from military service to private sector employment; and creating feedback loops for continuous improvement of TAP and credentialing programs along with continuous innovation in the method and means by which transition and "for life" support are provided to veterans and their families.