

**ONE-HUNDREDTH NATIONAL CONVENTION  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
August 28, 29, 30, 2018**

**Resolution No. 53: Means Test For Married Veterans**

**Origin: Illinois**

**Submitted by: Convention Committee on Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation**

WHEREAS, The American Legion is a national organization of veterans who have dedicated themselves to the service of the community, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, The United States Code, Title 38 § 1722 subsection (b) authorizes income thresholds for veterans eligibility for VA health-care benefits if they don't qualify for any other category, e.g. former POW, Purple Heart, service-connected disabled, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Currently a single veteran's financial means test threshold is based on a geographic-based means test using a chart which breaks down each state by county; and

WHEREAS, This chart can be found at <http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/resources/gmt> and every state and county is listed; and

WHEREAS, If the veteran has a dependent the means test threshold is increased; and

WHEREAS, A veteran married to a veteran, where both are eligible to enroll in VA health care, are penalized by the means test threshold by not having both of their honorable service periods recognized; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Minneapolis, Minnesota, August 28, 29, 30, 2018, That The American Legion support legislation to amend Title 38, United States Code, Sections 1722, subsection (b) to increase the income threshold of a veteran married to another veteran by two times the financial means test of a single veteran (as found on the chart at <http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/resources/gmt>) for the financial test applied for enrollment into the Department of Veterans Affairs health-care system.**