

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
October 17-18, 2018**

**Resolution No. 18: Continuous Glucose Monitoring and Veterans Care  
Origin: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission  
Submitted By: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

WHEREAS, As of 30 September 2018, there are an estimated 19.6 million veterans, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, of which approximately nine million veterans are enrolled in Veterans Health Administration (VHA) health care; and

WHEREAS, Diabetes Mellitus is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, According to the VHA, nearly one in four veterans receiving care from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has diabetes, which equates to roughly 2.25 million veterans with diabetes; and

WHEREAS, Patients with diabetes need to monitor blood glucose levels multiple times during the day, but only one in three comply with accepted monitoring prescriptions; and

WHEREAS, Many patients are unwilling to “prick” their fingers multiple times and/or dedicate the necessary effort to perform traditional blood glucose readings; and

WHEREAS, Traditional blood glucose monitoring only provide a point-in-time reading and can miss potentially dangerous high or low blood glucose levels; and

WHEREAS, Modern technology is available that allows continuous glucose monitoring which can improve management of a patient’s diabetes; and

WHEREAS, These continuous glucose monitors provide real-time measurement of glucose levels, which can show patterns and trends; and

WHEREAS, Most private insurers including the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs cover continuous glucose monitoring; and

WHEREAS, Uniform guidance from the VHA was last issued in 2014, and has not been updated to account for improvements in technology and reduced cost of equipment; and

WHEREAS, Updated guidance from the VHA can help improve the health of veteran patients suffering from diabetes; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 17-18, 2018, That The American Legion strongly encourage the Veterans Health Administration to issue uniform and comprehensive guidance that facilitates veterans’ access to continuous glucose monitoring devices.**