

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

**Resolution No. 25: Support and Expand Apprenticeship Opportunities for Servicemembers
Origin: Veterans Employment & Education Commission
Submitted By: Veterans Employment & Education Commission**

WHEREAS, The American workforce is the foundation of our country's economic competitiveness and prosperity, and significant talent shortages and skill gaps are slowing companies' efforts to expand, innovate, and thrive; and

WHEREAS, President Trump's Executive Order No. 13801, June 15, 2017, Expanding Apprenticeships in America, established the policy of the federal government to provide more affordable pathways to secure, high paying jobs by promoting apprenticeships and effective workforce development programs, while easing the regulatory burden on such programs and reducing or eliminating taxpayer support for ineffective workforce development programs; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Labor's role is to promote the value of apprenticeships, ensure equal access to apprenticeship programs, and provide integrated employment and training information to apprenticeship sponsors and the local employment and training community; and

WHEREAS, Veterans benefit from apprenticeships by receiving a skills-based education that prepares them for meaningful careers; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeship programs also helps employers recruit and retain a highly-skilled workforce; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense's United Service Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) has reached a milestone of 100,000 active participants as of 2017 and continues to expect further enrollment from servicemembers; 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 supports the Department of Labor's efforts to promote and expand apprenticeship opportunities across critical sectors, including manufacturing, infrastructure, cybersecurity, and health care, to increase the number of high-quality apprenticeships driven by industry recognized apprenticeship programs; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion supports the growth and expansion of the Department of Defense's United Services Military Apprenticeship Program.