

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

**Resolution No. 26: Eliminate GI Bill Transferability Maximum Year Caps
Origin: Veterans Employment & Education Commission
Submitted By: Veterans Employment & Education Commission**

WHEREAS, Since its enactment a decade ago, the Post-9/11 GI Bill has contained a transferability component designed to encourage military retention; and

WHEREAS, Said component has rested upon the premise that a servicemember meet requisite service requirements established by the Department of Defense (DoD) and the service branches, as well as commit to additional time in order to earn the benefit; and

WHEREAS, On July 12, 2018, DoD revised Instruction 1341.13 on transfer of education benefits to explicitly prohibit servicemembers with more than 16 years of total creditable service from applying to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to their families; and

WHEREAS, DoD proclaimed the change 'to more closely align the transferability benefit with its purpose as a recruiting and retention incentive' but has neglected to provide any evidence of how limiting transferability to servicemembers with less than 16 years of service supports DoD's recruitment and retention requirements; and

WHEREAS, A 16 year cap on transfer of education benefits significantly limits America's most dedicated servicemembers ability to execute the full economic potential of that benefit in the way that best suits them and their families; 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 oppose the Department of Defense July 12, 2018 revisions to Instruction 1341.13 that limits GI Bill transferability to servicemembers with no more than 16 years of service; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion support legislation that prohibits any transfer of education benefit limitations based on a maximum number of years of service in the armed forces.