EIGHTY-SIXTH NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
August 31, September 1, 2, 2004

Resolution No. 298: Urge State Employment Security Agencies To Report Veterans' Wages At Placement
Origin: Alabama
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Economic (Employment and Veterans Preference)
(Consolidated with Resolution No. 60 (UT) and Resolution No. 357 (IL))

WHEREAS, Employment services for veterans vary greatly from one area of the country to the next; and

WHEREAS, This uneven quality of employment services to unemployed veterans ranges from a veterans placement rate (veterans placed in jobs divided by veteran applicants) of an estimated low of six percent (6%) to a high of over twenty-five percent (25%), even among economically comparable areas; and

WHEREAS, Provisions of the "GI Bill" (codified at Chapter 41, Title 38, U.S. Code) clearly require the highest quality of employment assistance for all veterans who use the public employment service; and

WHEREAS, Possibly the single best key to the quality of job placement is wage received at placement, but the U.S. Department of Labor deleted this reporting requirement, relative to veterans only, a number of years ago; and

WHEREAS, The job-related characteristics of veteran state employment service applicants, such as attained education, are ordinarily superior to other applicants, but the fact that veterans' wages at placement are an unknown quantity, prevents comparison with other applicants, as well as comparison with the veteran's prior wage which could be recorded in the "Work History" section or other portion of the Job Service application; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) claims that there is a prohibitively high cost of future reporting on this single data item, wages of placed veterans, in spite of numerous data items already reported on veterans, as recorded in DOL report 9002; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Nashville, Tennessee, August 31, September 1, 2, 2004, That The American Legion urge the State Employment Security Agencies to voluntarily report separately on veterans' wages at placement; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion urge the Congress and the Department of Labor to arrange for such reporting by state and nationwide, through federal law or executive action.