NINETY-EIGHTH NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Cincinnati, Ohio
August 30, 31, September 1, 2016

Resolution No. 150: Expanding Post-9/11 GI Bill for Entrepreneurship
Origin: Maryland
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Veterans Employment & Education
(As amended)

WHEREAS, Our nation's economy is comprised of a majority of small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Our men and women returning home from military service certainly have entrepreneurial skills; and

WHEREAS, Many small businesses struggle in their first years of start-up and can utilize assistance in getting established; and

WHEREAS, Returning veterans are eligible for the GI Bill for education benefits, which are designed to give the veteran assistance toward obtaining an education; and

WHEREAS, The GI Bill could be expanded to encourage veterans to establish their own businesses; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Cincinnati, Ohio, August 30, 31, September 1, 2016, That The American Legion support legislation and/or administrative proposal to allow servicemembers and veterans who are eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill to use those educational benefits to start, expand, or pursue federal contracting and be afforded the opportunity to use those benefits at institutions of higher learning or small business developing centers; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion support legislation and/or administrative proposal for these business programs to be approved by either the State Approving Agencies, Small Business Administration and/or Department of Education to ensure quality of the program; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion support legislation to allow veterans who are eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill educational benefits to convert those benefits into assistance in starting a business, purchasing a business or expanding a business.