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

Resolution No. 343: Support Student-Veterans Return-On-Investment Education Outcomes
Origin: Convention Committee on Veterans Employment & Education
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Veterans Employment & Education

WHEREAS, The American Legion, over the past several months, has been encouraged by the growing recognition within Congress of the need to make basic, but critical, information about the return on investment in higher education available to student-veterans; and

WHEREAS, Student debt and college costs are reaching new heights, and the public is increasingly questioning the benefit of a college degree; and

WHEREAS, Information about the value of specific degrees will allow those directly affected by higher education, students, families, taxpayers, policymakers, institutions, and employers, to make informed decisions; and

WHEREAS, Federal taxpayers spend more than $150 billion a year on federal financial aid, $30 billion on GI Bill benefits, and $1 billion on military tuition assistance, while students, states, and employers spend billions more, yet we cannot get answers to basic, fundamental questions; and

WHEREAS, With significant federal investment in programs and institutions, policymakers should demand better information about the effectiveness of higher education; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Cincinnati, Ohio, August 30, 31, September 1, 2016, That Congress is urged to embrace outcomes-focused data systems that produce information which enable stakeholders to make informed decisions; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion urge Congress to pursue systems that provide timely, contextual, and actionable data necessary to calculate "return on investment" measures, but also to document continuous improvement within higher education institutions and training programs, as this information is vital to ensure transparency, accountability, and alignment which are all critical pieces of the efforts to improve the outcomes of our education and workforce development systems; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Congress not make any legislative changes to the Post-9/11 GI Bill that may unduly harm veterans in their pursuit of a vocation that leads to gainful employment.