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

Resolution No. 361: Congress to Provide Back Pay to Veterans and Dependents
Origin: Convention Committee on Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

WHEREAS, On October 1, 2013, the United States Congress failed to approve the federal budget, which resulted in the furlough of federal government employees; and

WHEREAS, Compensation payments to more than 3.8 million veterans would have been suspended if the government shut-down extended past October 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Pension payments to more than 315,000 veterans and over 202,000 surviving spouses and dependents would not have been distributed if the government shut-down extended past October, 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The failure to provide veterans and their families with their earned benefits will result in financial hardship, which could lead to a loss of homes, to include other basic necessities of living, and may result in delinquent credit reporting; 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 urge Congress to reinstate any and all federal benefits to include, but not limited to, compensation, pension, education and dependency and indemnity compensation payments, and provide back pay to veterans and surviving spouses and dependents whose payments may be suspended due to government shut-down.