ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Phoenix, Arizona
August 31, September 1, 2, 2021

Resolution No. 8: Child Care at Vet Centers
Origin: California
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

WHEREAS, Vet Centers, Mobile Vet Centers, and Vet Center Outstations across the country provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services; and

WHEREAS, These community-based counseling centers provide a numerous social and psychological services, including professional readjustment counseling to eligible veterans, active-duty servicemembers, National Guardsmen and reservists, and their families; and

WHEREAS, Readjustment counseling is offered to assist in the successful transition from military to civilian life or after a traumatic event experienced in the military; and

WHEREAS, Individual, group, marriage and family counseling are offered in addition to referral and connection to other Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) or community benefits and services; and

WHEREAS, Vet Center counselors and outreach staff, many of whom are veterans themselves, are experienced and prepared to discuss the tragedies of war, loss, grief, and transition after trauma; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of veterans, active-duty service members (including Guard and reservists) and their families receive readjustment counseling at VA's 300 Vet Centers, totaling millions of visits; and

WHEREAS, There is a clear need to place additional Vet Center Outstations and/or Mobile Vet Centers in under-served metropolitan and/or rural areas; and

WHEREAS, Two of the most pressing concerns for single parents is for the VA to provide child care to veterans at Vet Centers in the same manner as it is provided to veterans at other VA facilities, and to have VA transportation to fixed Vet Centers and Outstations similar to transportation to VA Medical Centers and Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Phoenix, Arizona, August 31, September 1, 2, 2021, That The American Legion urges the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to fund and expand Vet Centers, Mobile Vet Centers, and Vet Center Outstations, to provide child care at Vet Centers just like other VA facilities, and to provide VA transportation to fixed Vet Centers and Outstations.