NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
May 5-6, 2010

Resolution No. 19: Support Microsoft New Veterans' Initiative
Origin: Economic Commission
Submitted by: Economic Commission

WHEREAS, Veterans returning from Afghanistan, Iraq and other tours of duty are not always coming back to a hero's welcome—at least from employers; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Labor reported that the unemployment rate for veterans aged 18 to 24 is 30.2 percent; and

WHEREAS, For veterans of all ages from the recent wars, the current unemployment rate is 9.8 percent; and

WHEREAS, Difficulty finding work can make the adjustment to life back home extremely challenging for veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, Veterans and their spouses need proper training and tools to begin new careers after they leave military service; and

WHEREAS, Microsoft has announced the Elevate America's Veterans Initiative to help prepare veterans and their spouses with technology skills and resources they need to be successful in today's workplace; and

WHEREAS, Microsoft is looking for guidance from veterans' groups and other stakeholders through an Advisory Committee to enable them to make cash/software awards to eligible organizations to aid the transition to civilian careers for veterans and their spouses, with technology training, skills training, job placement, career counseling and other support services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 5-6, 2010, That The American Legion supports Microsoft's Elevate America's Veterans Initiative that will provide veterans and their spouses with necessary skills and resources to obtain gainful employment in today's global marketplace; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion will participate on the Advisory Committee to provide overall feedback to process, direction and goals of Microsoft's new initiative for veterans and their spouses; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion authorizes, approves and ratifies the partnership with Microsoft Elevate American Veterans Initiative.