NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
MAY 4 - 5, 2016

Resolution No. 14: 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Committee
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission
Submitted By: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The Vietnam War resulted in a very difficult and tumultuous time for our country and many returning service members did not receive the honorable "welcome home" and respect they richly deserved; and

WHEREAS, The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the secretary of defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War in 2012; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion first recognized this anniversary in 2012 by Resolution No. 27 (NEC, May 2012); and

WHEREAS, The initial appointments of The American Legion were made by the national commander and approved by the National Executive Committee in October 2013 to our U.S. Government 50th Anniversary of Vietnam War Commemorative Committee; and

WHEREAS, By presidential proclamation on May 25, 2012, the commemoration extends from Memorial Day 2012 through Veterans Day 2025; and

WHEREAS, The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration was established in order to facilitate programs to honor and pay tribute to Vietnam Veterans and their families to achieve the following objectives:

1) Thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War and their families, and give special recognition to those who were held as prisoners of war and to the families of those listed as missing in action,

2) Highlight the service of the armed forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of the armed forces,

3) Pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the citizens of the United States in support of the Vietnam War,

4) Highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to the military research conducted during the Vietnam War, and finally

5) Recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, The Vietnam War Commemoration program is outlined on their website (http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/) and consists of a series of national and regional events and activities to assist states in engaging local communities and organizations to broaden the knowledge and bring recognition to those who served or supported the Vietnam War effort; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 4-5, 2016, That The American Legion continues to fully support the Department of Defense in their efforts to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War throughout all of our communities across this great country; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee now be called the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Committee whose purpose is to work in concert with American Legion posts, districts, departments and the general public to build awareness and support for the Vietnam veterans and their families as directed and approved by the National Executive Committee; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Committee shall consist of a chairman, and not to exceed seven members selected at large and approved by the national commander and the National Executive Committee; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the national commander is authorized to make such interim appointments as may be required to fill vacancies, subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee at its next ensuing meeting until this committee is terminated the first day after Veterans Day 2025 unless sooner disbanded; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Committee be assigned to the Internal Affairs Commission and the National Officers, Department Officers and Commissions and Committees book published by the National Headquarters shall be updated to reflect the name change above.