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To: All Legion Leadership
Subject: American Legion National Commander: Military lost a friend in Robin Williams
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American Legion National Commander: Military lost a friend in Robin Williams

WASHINGTON (August 13, 2014) – The American Legion National Commander Daniel M. Dellinger issued the following statement in reaction to Monday's passing of comedian Robin Williams: "The U.S. military and veterans who served in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan, lost a true friend and supporter Monday. Like the great Bob Hope, Robin Williams used his special brand of comedy to entertain troops stationed in 13 countries, while traveling on multiple USO tours. By all accounts, he was warm, engaging and accessible to every servicemember who met him. The American Legion does not wish to dwell on how he died, but we want to encourage anyone who is depressed, to seek help immediately. Last year, the United States lost one member of its military every 18 hours to suicide. Veterans and their family members who feel that they may harm themselves should call the Veterans Crisis Hotline, 1-800-273-8255, press 1. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Mr. Williams' family and friends."

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