NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
May 4-5, 2022
Indianapolis, Indiana

Resolution No. 1: Amend American Legion Constitution and By-laws to Allow Multi-Year And Rolling Memberships
Origin: Constitution & By-Laws Committee
Submitted by: Finance Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion is very careful and cautious in the drafting of its National Constitution and National By-laws; and

WHEREAS, A recent ad hoc Committee to Study Membership Processing for the 2022-23 Year found that there was a strong desire to allow for multi-year memberships of three or five years; and

WHEREAS, That same committee found that the current practice of having all memberships run concurrently regardless of when an individual joined The American Legion is cumbersome and confusing; and

WHEREAS, This often resulted in members receiving a renewal notice within days or weeks of having initially joined; 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, 2022, That the National Constitution and By-laws of The American Legion be amended to allow for multi-year and rolling renewal dates for individual memberships; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That American Legion Constitution Article IV, "Eligibility," Section 2, currently codified as "There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership, and dues shall be paid annually or for life," be amended to state that, "There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership, and dues shall be paid annually, for multiple years, or for life."; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That there be added to the American Legion Constitution Article X, "Finance," Section 2.1 to state that, "Dues paid for multiple years, but for less than life, shall all be paid at the rate of the annual dues for the first year of that term."; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That American Legion Constitution Article X, "Finance," Section 4, currently codified as "Annual dues shall be payable October 20 of each year, for the succeeding calendar year." be amended to state that, "Upon expiration, annual dues shall be immediately payable for the succeeding year."; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That American Legion By-laws, Article IV, Section 4, "Discipline of Post and Post Members" be amended to read as follows:

> **Section 4. A member whose dues ~~for the current year~~ have not been paid on the member's renewal date ~~by January first~~ shall be classed as delinquent. If their dues are paid within 30 days of expiration, ~~on or before February first,~~ the member shall be automatically reinstated. If the member is still delinquent 30 days after expiration ~~after February first~~, the member shall be suspended from all privileges. If the member is still under**

such suspension 120 days following expiration ~~on June first of such year,~~ their membership in The American Legion shall be forfeited. A member so suspended or whose membership has been so forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by vote of the Post and payment of current dues ~~for the year in which the reinstatement occurs~~; however, the Posts, Departments and the National Organization may waive the provisions hereof, upon payment of dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs, with reference to former members who have been prevented from the payment of dues by reason of active military service.; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That passage of these recommended amendments to the National Constitution and National By-laws by the National Convention shall not create either multi-year and/or rolling memberships until they are enacted through the normal resolution process.