ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
August 30, 31, September 1, 2022

Resolution No. 19: Resource and System Provisions for Food Insecurity Among Veterans
Origin: California
Submitted by: Convention Committee on Veterans Employment & Education

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs reports that 1.5 million veterans live in poverty, and their poverty rates are rising, leading to increased risks of food insecurity and decreased ability to maintain healthy living; and

WHEREAS, In 2019, 17.4 million veterans lived in the United States, of whom three-fourths were of working age due to the fact that one of the fastest growing and youngest groups of veterans are those who served after September 11, 2001, and are more likely to have a service-connected disability; and

WHEREAS, A report summary from the Economic Research Service (ERS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture found that in 2015-2019, 11.1 percent of working-age veterans lived in food insecure households, and 5.3 percent lived in households with very low food security causing disruptions in normal eating patterns; and

WHEREAS, ERS also found that food insecure households among working-aged veterans differed by periods of service, length of service, educational attainment, metropolitan status, labor for participation, household composition and disability status; and

WHEREAS, Food insecurity was higher among working-aged veterans who were disabled (33.6 percent), unemployed (20,0 percent) and female (13.5 percent), but declined with the number of active duty periods and educational attainment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin August 30, 31, September 1, 2022, That The American Legion support legislation that facilitates solutions that effectively addresses the unique circumstances that lead to food insecurity among veterans; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion supports legislation that secures the availability of food resources and systems that serve as a pipeline in getting nutrition to veterans who are experiencing or at risk of food insecurity.