THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF IMICHIGAN

RESOLUTION:

11-W-9

SUBMITTED BY:

Americanism & Community Service and Internal Affairs Committees

SUBJECT:

U.S. Flag Flown at Half-Staff as Directed by the Michigan Governor

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS,

The Governor issued Proclamation No. 2003-4 that ordered the flag to be flown at half-staff when: a) A member of the Michigan National Guard is killed in the line of duty, or b) A member of the Michigan Air National Guard is killed in the line of duty, or c) A Michigan resident serving as a member of the United States Armed Forces is killed in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS,

This created a problem within the veteran community because it violated the U.S. Flag Code (36 U.S.C. 171); and

WHEREAS.

The Governor followed up with Executive Order No. 2006-10 which tried to enforce and clarify Executive Order No. 2003-4; and

WHEREAS,

Executive Order No. 2006-10 did not affect federal agencies; and

WHEREAS,

U.S. Representative Bart Stupak (MI) introduced an amendment to the U.S. Flag Code, which was approved by the Congress, that would require all federal agencies in a state to comply with a governor's proclamation to fly the flag at half-mast in honor of those that lost their lives serving their country; and

WHEREAS,

There is still confusion and conflict in the veterans community as to when a veteran's organization should lower the flag to half-mast to honor a service member based on the location and cause of a service member's loss of life; and

WHEREAS,

Local businesses and other local agencies take their lead from veteran organizations in the proper display of the United States Flag; and

WHEREAS,

There still needs to be an honorable ceremony to recognize those Michigan service members who have lost their lives in the line of duty serving our country; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED,

By the American Legion, Department of Michigan, in annual Winter Meeting, assembled in Fiint, Michigan, February 19-20, 2011, That the Governor of the State of Michigan is requested to not issue an Executive Order to lower the flag of our country to half-mast; and, be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Governor cause the flag on the State Capitol to be lowered to half-staff, and that flag be issued to the veteran's survivors by the Governor (or his representative) as a sign of respect and condolences from the citizens of the State of Michigan.