

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION: 20-10-C

SUBMITTED BY: The American Legion, Department of Michigan

SUBJECT: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Grant WWII Veterans Same Hospital and Medical Entitlement as Previously Granted to WWI and Spanish American War Veterans

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The American Legion strongly supports the extension of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Health Benefits to include all U.S. Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.), Chapter 17, Sect. 1710 (a) (2) (e) requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish needed hospital care and medical services without regards to the other VA eligibility requirements to Veterans of WWI and Spanish American Wars; and

WHEREAS, Only a small number of WWI veterans and none from the Spanish American War are alive today; and

WHEREAS, The veterans of WWII have served our country honorably both in the war and as exemplary citizens of our great nation and are reaching an age when such medical services are needed similar to those granted WWI and Spanish American War veterans in the aforementioned law; and

WHEREAS, The current medical services provided to the WWII veterans by VA is based on a category and/or an income means test and proves difficult for these aging veterans to complete as well as being cumbersome for VA to apply and thus prevents some WWII veterans from accessing those services; and

WHEREAS, The funds the VA spends to apply this bureaucratic means test procedure could be better spent providing direct care to these WWII veterans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED,

By the American Legion, Department of Michigan, in annual Department Convention, assembled in Dearborn, Michigan, June 17-20, 2010, that The American Legion, Department of Michigan, support amending Title 38, U.S.C. Chapter 17, to grant WWII veterans the same hospital and medical entitlements as granted to WWI and Spanish American War veterans to honor their service and ensure VA continues the same standards of care.