

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

Resolution Number: 20-10

Submitted By: The American Legion, Department of Michigan, Commander Barry Wood

Subject: Naming the VA Ann Arbor Medical Center after Medal of Honor Recipient Lt. Col. Charles S. Kettles

WHEREAS, Charles S. Kettles, was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan, January 9, 1930; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Charles S. Kettles, served in the U.S. Army, 176th Assault Helicopter Company, during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Charles S. Kettles was an Honorary Life Member of Ypsilanti American Legion Post 282; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Charles S. Kettles, received the Medal Of Honor from President Barrack Obama, on July 18, 2016, for distinguishing himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while serving as Flight Commander, 176th Aviation Company (Airmobile) (Light), 14th Combat Aviation Battalion, Americal Division near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. On 15 May 1967. Despite the intense enemy fire, Major Kettles maintained control of the aircraft and situation, allowing time for the remaining eight soldiers to board the aircraft. In spite of the severe damage to his helicopter, Major Kettles once more skillfully guided his heavily damaged aircraft to safety. Without his courageous actions and superior flying skills, the last group of soldiers and his crew would never have made it off the battlefield. Major Kettles' selfless acts of repeated valor and determination are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Charles S. Kettles, passed away on January 21, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System was built in 1953; and

WHEREAS, the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System provides state-of-the-art care, and life-saving medical procedures to America's Military Veterans; and, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of Michigan, at the first meeting of the Department Executive Committee for 2020-2021 membership year, assembled in Lansing, Michigan and via electronic communication, on June 27, 2020, That The American Legion, Department of Michigan, supports the efforts of Michigan U.S. Senators, and Congressional Delegates to rename the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System in honor of MOH Recipient, and Michigan son, Lt. Col. Charles S. Kettles

Committee: Approved Approved with Amendments Rejected Received and Recorded

Other Action: _____

Department Executive Committee: Approved Approved with Amendments Rejected