

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION: #21-02

SUBMITTED BY: 19th District

SUBJECT: Zone Commander's Reserve Fund

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The current method of creating a Zone Commander's Reserve Fund allows for a definite portion of the dues from each member within each Zone to be set aside as an expense allowance specifically for that Zone Commander; and

WHEREAS, Current Zone alignment is directly related to current Districts and county alignment; and

WHEREAS, This current funding process creates an inequitable distribution of monies to Zone Commanders in smaller, more densely populated Zones; and

WHEREAS, Zone Commanders in larger, more sparsely populated Zones are faced with greater travel distances to meet with their respective Districts and Posts; and

WHEREAS, Those same Zone Commanders are faced with a smaller population; therefore, a smaller pool of veterans eligible for membership in The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Each Zone Commander's Reserve Fund has one (1) day's per diem for the next Department Convention charged against it; and

WHEREAS, Recent increases by Convention in per diem and mileage reimbursement allowances, along with increases in postage rates, result in a more rapid depletion of available funds; and

WHEREAS, The Department's current goal of 55,605 members multiplied by the current Zone Commander's Reserve Fund allotment of \$0.25 per member, results in an overall fund of \$13,901.25; and

WHEREAS, Proposals for Department redistricting may alleviate some issues of distance and travel time, they cannot adequately address the issue of disparity of membership among the several and various Zones; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of Michigan, in annual Winter Department Executive Committee Meeting, assembled via Zoom, February 11, 2021, that The American Legion, Department of Michigan Executive Committee direct the

Department Finance Chairman to create an annual budget line item of "Zone Commander's Reserve Fund", in the amount of \$13,901.25; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That each Zone Commander be allotted \$2,500, on an annual basis, from this fund for ordinary and usual expenses (mileage and per diem (other than conferences and convention), postage, awards, etc.) to be disbursed against submitted vouchers as currently in practice; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That monies remaining in this fund following the initial allotment to the Zone Commanders CAN be disbursed to the Zone Commanders for expenses beyond ordinary and usual (special events and promotions for the good of The American Legion greater than the Zone) *WHEN SUCH EXPENDITURE IS PREVIOUSLY AND EXPRESSLY APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER, DEPARTMENT FINANCE OFFICER, AND THE DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT TOGETHER*; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the portion of each member's dues currently and hereafter set aside for Zone Commander's Reserve shall be deposited to the credit of this budget line item fund; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That any monies above the budget \$13,901.25 line item deposited to this account from member's dues as of June 30 of each year be moved to the Michigan American Legion Foundation account for support of its member programs.

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FOR COMMITTEE USE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____ REFERRED TO _____ APPROVED w/AMEND _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
(Chairman)

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
(Chairman)