

**THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION:      #21-13**

**SUBMITTED BY:    Department Reconnect Committee**

**SUBJECT:           Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program and Patriot Fund**

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** The American Legion, Department of Michigan Reconnect Committee, as a way to support our committee mission statement, created the Patriot Fund in 2009 as a broad based, non-typical temporary financial assistance program inspired by the needs of our Michigan National Guard families providing assistance to those service members and veterans who were not able to find assistance elsewhere, regardless of wartime service era, making it the first recognized TFA program in our state serving peacetime veterans; and

**WHEREAS,** The American Legion, Department of Michigan Reconnect Committee created the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior program in 2010 expanding the Committee's outreach services for our war time veterans and military families including, but not limited to, such services as: all expenses paid family retreats, Post Traumatic Stress retreats, workshops and presentations, temporary financial assistance, adaptive and alternate therapy modalities; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reconnect Committee promotes, operates, manages and oversees these two programs in accordance with the Reconnect Committee Rules of Procedure, committee member input, committee approved program guidelines and criteria; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reconnect Committee generates all required funding for these two programs through in kind donations, both personal and organizational, which are independent of the Department of Michigan's annual budget, keeping these programs revenue neutral for Department; and

**WHEREAS,** Both Committee programs include the temporary financial assistance feature and it is vastly easier to administer one complete program instead of two similar programs; 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 Department of Michigan approve the recommendation from The American Legion, Department of Michigan Reconnect Committee, through the Department Finance Committee, that the Patriot Fund be dissolved; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Michigan American Legion Foundation be notified that funds currently in the Patriot Fund Account be transferred to the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Fund Account for immediate use; and, be it**

**FURTHER RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of Michigan Reconnect Committee, in Annual Winter Meeting assembled virtually in Michigan, January 26, 2021, that the Patriot Fund be dissolved and combined with the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program into one program; and, be it**

**FURTHER RESOLVED, That since the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program is the only program of the two with an established social media presence and the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program generates the majority of the community organizational support and donations that the name of the newly combined program retain the name Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program; and, be it**

**FURTHER RESOLVED, That all funds and assets both liquid and invested being custodially held by the Michigan American Legion Foundation be combined with those of the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program being custodially held by the Michigan American Legion Foundation; and be it**

**FINALLY RESOLVED, That said changes become effective immediately.**

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FOR COMMITTEE USE

APPROVED  REJECTED  REFERRED TO \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVED w/AMEND

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)