

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

**RESOLUTION:** #24-22

**SUBMITTED BY:** Americanism Committee

**SUBJECT:** Redirect Adult Oratorical Contest

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students; and

**WHEREAS,** The Oratorical Contest program has continued to be an important, educational youth program since 1938; and

**WHEREAS,** The challenge of the Oratorical Contest teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights, and privileges of American citizenship; and

**WHEREAS,** The importance of understanding the U.S. Constitution and its effect on each citizen is not limited to high school students; and

**WHEREAS,** Many adults in the United States may have limited understanding and awareness of the provisions of the U.S. Constitution; and

**WHEREAS,** Increasing the knowledge and understanding of the constitution among the general adult public will allow for and help create a more informed and aware electorate; and

**WHEREAS,** A more informed and aware electorate is an integral part of a more secure nation; and

**WHEREAS,** The Americanism Committee does not directly work with the Oratorical Program; and

**WHEREAS,** The Education and Scholarship Committee is responsible for development of Oratorical programs; and

**WHEREAS,** There was a unanimous vote of the Americanism Committee, on January 25, 2024, to send Resolution 23-16 to the Education and Scholarship Committee for further development of Adult Oratorical Competition program; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of Michigan, in annual Department Convention assembled in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, July 12-14, 2024, to approve and direct that Resolution #23-16 be implemented by the Education and Scholarship Committee; and, be it**

**FURTHER RESOLVED, The Department Judge Advocate, Internal Affairs Chairperson, and the Constitution and Bylaws Subcommittee Chairperson shall make all the changes required by this resolution; and, be it**

**FINALLY RESOLVED, This action shall take place at the close of Department Convention 2024.**

SENT TO EDUC & SCHOL FOR CLARIFICATION & FURTHER DEVELOPMENT