

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION: #25-22

SUBMITTED BY: 2nd District

SUBJECT: Affix the 988 Shield to Every Marked Emergency Vehicle Nationally

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The suicide rate in this country is at alarming numbers, with more than approximately forty (40) adults taking their own lives every day; women seeing the fastest growth in this demographic (ages 18 to 35) and children being the second or third largest demographic (ages 8-18), and veterans at a rate of twenty-two (22) or more a day. These statistics are from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense (DOD) reported the highest suicide numbers to date, with over three hundred seventy (370) active duty service men and women in 2021-2022; and

WHEREAS, The creation of a streamlined Crisis Hotline Number 988, in July of 2022, has had little effect on the suicide rate, mainly because few people even know of its existence. The 988 Hotline is purposed with giving help and counseling to anyone in/or contemplating crisis; and

WHEREAS, For many years, law enforcement vehicles have been decaled with mottos and slogans for the purpose of visibility to the public, with great success with mottos such as "Be nice to people", "Making a Difference", "A Tradition of Service", and slogans such as "Crime Stoppers", "D.A.R.E.", and "Just Say No"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of Michigan, in annual Department Fall Conference, assembled in Battle Creek, Michigan, September 26-28, 2025, That The American Legion, Department of Michigan, hereby requests that every marked emergency vehicle have the 988 Shield, decaled on both sides of the same, and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to the National Executive Committee for consideration and adoption as a national position of The American Legion.