

# Department Resolutions

Mid-Winter

D.E.C.

2021 – 2022



**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF OREGON**

**RESOLUTION**

**Resolution No.**                      **Referred to Committee on** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by: Department of Oregon**

**Subject: Endorsement of Steve D. Shollenburg for National Chaplain of the American  
Legion**

**WHEREAS**, Steven D. Shollenburg, an ordained 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist pastor since 2001 and a member of The American Legion since 2010, has served as chaplain for various Oregon chapters and posts for the past 8 years including American Legion Riders State Chaplain, McMinnville post 21, Lester C. Rees Post 57, and Department of Oregon Chaplain for the past three years and was recognized as the Department of Oregon Chaplain of the year in 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, The American Legion Preamble starts with the words "For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes," and

**WHEREAS**, The introduction declares that The American Legion recognizes the influence of Almighty God in all worthwhile endeavors, declares allegiance of Legionnaires to both God and Country, and

**WHEREAS**, Steven D. Shollenburg did distinguish himself as an impromptu chaplain at the 102<sup>nd</sup> American Legion National Convention Western Caucus in Phoenix, Arizona by offering prayer when called upon as no other chaplain was in attendance, did impress those in attendance, Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That The American Legion Department of Oregon Executive Committee, assembled in Wilsonville, Oregon January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, endorses Steven D. Shollenburg for National Chaplain of The American Legion, and be it finally

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion Department of Oregon Department Executive Committee forward this resolution to the American Legion National Adjutant.**

**For Convention Committee Use**

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Rejected \_\_\_\_\_

Consolidated with \_\_\_\_\_

Other Action \_\_\_\_\_

Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on

\_\_\_\_\_

Received and Recorded \_\_\_\_\_

Other Action \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman or Secretary

**Action Taken by Convention Delegation**

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Rejected \_\_\_\_\_

Approved with Amendments \_\_\_\_\_

Consolidated with \_\_\_\_\_

Other Action \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Department Adjutant, Department of Oregon

DEPARTMENT OF OREGON  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Wilsonville, Oregon

January 9, 2022

**Resolution No. :** Designating Oregon State Route 35 as the Oregon Nisei Veterans World War II Historic Highway

**Origin:** American Legion Hood River Post 22

**Submitted By:** District 5

**WHEREAS,** The Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion in part states "to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism, to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars, and to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; and

**WHEREAS,** The American Legion is committed to the ideals of "freedom, equality and justice" and dismantling injustices in our past; and

**WHEREAS,** Fifty-seven Nisei (second-generation Japanese Americans) from the Mid-Columbia (Columbia River region north of Mt. Hood) and a total of 120 from the state of Oregon served in our country's Armed Forces during World War II and in the post-war Occupation of Japan, even as their family members were incarcerated on American soil due to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942; and

**WHEREAS,** These Nisei soldiers were among 33,000 Nisei who served our country in the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion/442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team in Europe and as linguists in the Military Intelligence Service in the South Pacific and the post-war Occupation of Japan; and

**WHEREAS,** The names of sixteen local Nisei soldiers were blacked out from an honor roll of 1,600 local Armed Forces members on the Hood River County Courthouse on November 29, 1944, bringing national notoriety to the valley; and the names were restored thirteen weeks later on April 9, 1945; and

**WHEREAS,** During the war, local citizens discouraged Nisei veterans and their families from returning to their homes and farms; and

**WHEREAS,** The Oregon House of Representative passed Joint Memorial No. 9 on Feb. 28, 1945, calling on President Roosevelt to prevent the return of Japanese Americans "for the

duration of the present war with Japan"; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2011 our nation's Nisei soldiers were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal and in 2015 the French Legion d'Honneur award, the highest award the French Government could bestow on members of the American Armed Forces and in June 2021 the United States Postal Service released a Forever Stamp to pay tribute to Nisei soldiers; and

**WHEREAS**, Hood River citizens including American Legion Post 22 have since recognized Nisei World War II veterans in an "acknowledgement of wrongs" by dedicating local landmarks: a memorial brick "in honor of all Nisei veterans" at Overlook Memorial Park on Veterans' Day 2001 and a marble monument inscribed with names of all Japanese American veterans at Idlewilde Cemetery on Memorial Day 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, Three years after the end of World War II, President Harry S. Truman signed Executive Order 9981 committing the Federal Government to integrate the segregated military after 170 years of discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, The United States Congress compelled the U.S. Army to award Medals of Honor to WWII Asian American and Philippine Islander veterans who performed deeds of valor equal to their white counterparts and who had been excluded from that highest military combat award due to discriminatory practices. Sixty years after World War II began, twenty-two Asian-Pacific veterans (including twenty Nisei) received Medal of Honor awards on June 21, 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, State Route 35 has special significance for Japanese American veterans, as many of their families owned or worked on fruit orchards along the highway and in the region until they were forcibly removed due to President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066; and

**WHEREAS**, S.R. 35 is 41 miles in length and connects with the POW/MIA Memorial Highway on U.S. Highway 26 and with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway in Hood River on Interstate 84; and

**WHEREAS**, Oregon has designated 8 border to border war veterans highways but has not designated a highway to honor Oregon's World War II Nisei veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, Designating S.R. 35 as the Oregon Nisei Veterans WWII Historic Highway will at long last pay tribute to Nisei veterans not only in the Columbia Gorge area but all 120 Nisei who served from the State of Oregon; and

**WHEREAS**, Thirteen Nisei veterans from Oregon are known to be living today; and descendants of at least twenty-seven Nisei veterans are known to live in Oregon's Mid-Columbia area; and

**WHEREAS**, American Legion Post 22 is located in Hood River served by S.R. 35, is the only Congressionally chartered veterans group located in the Mid-Columbia area, many Post members associated with local Nisei veterans in their daily lives and WWII Nisei soldiers were members of the Post; and

**WHEREAS**, "To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations" is a tenet of the American Legion Preamble to the Constitution; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, By District 5, The American Legion, Department of Oregon in its regular meeting assembled in Wilsonville, Oregon, on January 9, 2022 urges The American Legion, Department of Oregon to support designation of S.R. 35 as the Oregon Nisei Veterans World War II Historic Highway by the Oregon Legislature; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, The American Legion, Department of Oregon and Post 22 should testify to the Oregon Legislature in support of the proposed designation; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the Oregon Nisei Veterans World War II Historic Highway will be a permanent reminder that the service and sacrifices of Oregon's WWII Nisei veterans were made at a high cost and freedom is not free.

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Lance Trowbridge  
Commander District 5

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Adjutant District 5

Approved this 9<sup>th</sup> Day of January, 2022

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Don Webber  
Department Commander

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Flynn Phillips  
Department Adjutant

**The American Legion, Department of Oregon  
Permanent Finance Commission Supplemental Budget Request**

**RESOLUTION**

Title: 2021-2022 Annual Budget

Page 1 of 1

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Originator: Permanent Finance Commission

- WHEREAS** The Department of Oregon Budget for year 2021-2022 as approved at our Department of Oregon Convention at Seven-Feathers Resort on June 25, 2021, approved the Oratorical Scholarship Fund for \$16,000; and
- WHEREAS** the Executive Committee of the Oregon American Legion Foundation (OALF) voted to transfer \$5,000.00 from the Unclassified Funds of the OALF to the Oratorical Scholarship Fund of the Department of Oregon 2021-2021 Budget on Thursday December 9, 2021; and
- WHEREAS** with an excess of \$5,000.00 available in the 2020-2021 Department Budget line Oratorical Scholarship Fund, \$5,000. is transferred for a donation to the Veterans and Children's Fund (VCF) from the Department of Oregon: now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that \$5,000. excess in the Department of Oregon Budget line for Oratorical Scholarship Fund for 2021-2022, be allocated to the Veterans and Children's Fund from the Department of Oregon, and be it further
- RESOLVED** that this Resolution upon approval at the Mid-Winter Department Executive Committee (DEC) in Wilsonville, OR on January 9, 2022 take effect, and is so implemented

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Permanent Finance Commission

DEPARTMENT OF OREGON  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
LA PINE, OREGON

APRIL 11, 2021

**Resolution No. : Amendment to Department Constitution and Bylaws on Elections**

**Origin: Ad hoc Exigency Action Committee**

**Submitted By: Ad hoc Exigency Action Committee**

WHEREAS, The Department of Oregon adheres to the principles and abides by the jurisdictional guidance described within the National, and Department, Constitution and Bylaws; and,

WHEREAS, The legislative body of the Department of Oregon shall be a department convention to be held annually at a location determined by approval and vote of the Department Executive Committee; and,

WHEREAS, Critical business functions occur at the Department Convention including the election and ratification of officers, approval of an annual budget, election and ratification of delegates to the National Convention, and taking action on resolutions brought forth before the convention voting delegation; and

WHEREAS, The potential exists for the postponement or cancellation of the Department Convention due to unforeseen or unactionable outcomes of events, which negatively impacts the ability of the Department of Oregon to conduct perfunctory duties and obligations; and,

WHEREAS, Department of Oregon remains steadfast with resolve to fulfill our mission statement that "The American Legion strengthens our communities, states and nation with programs and services for our veterans, the military and their families"; and,

WHEREAS, Current modern business practices and technologies have evolved since The American Legion originated and it is leadership's responsibility to advance recommended best practices to the benefit of The American Legion and all veterans; now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, That the Department of Oregon Constitution and Bylaws be amended to permit, upon exigency, the conducting of a virtual convention whereby the requirements, obligations and actions of a typical convention are fulfilled via audio-visual conference technology, in accordance with statutory law, as stipulated further within this resolution; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Constitution of The American Legion Department of Oregon Article V, Section I. be amended to "The legislative body of the Department of Oregon shall be a Department Convention to be held annually; the location of such Convention shall be fixed by a vote of the Department Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the Department Convention Commission. **In the event of such exigency that the Department Convention cannot be conducted where, and as, scheduled, the Department Executive Committee shall fix, by vote, a decision to conduct a virtual Department Convention by audio-visual conference technology upon such dates commensurate with the exigency.**"; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That in consideration and concurrence with the Convention Commission, an electronic voting platform be utilized as deemed necessary during exigency, in accordance with statutory law, to conduct, collect and document for record all voting measures that be conducted; and, be it further



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RESOLVED, That By-laws of The American Legion Department of Oregon Article V, Section 1. be amended to "The several Posts of the Department shall, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the annual Department Convention elect their delegates and alternates and certify them to the Department Adjutant. The registration fee for all authorized delegates, alternates and delegates-at-large, as it shall be determined by the Department Executive Committee, shall be sent in accordance with the Convention **Commission** Code of Procedure. No delegate shall be seated at the Convention unless certification of such election is received by the Department Adjutant at least thirty (30) days prior, except as hereinafter provided."; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That By-laws of The American Legion Department of Oregon Article VII be amended to "**Section 14. Upon incidence of exigency, within virtual Department Convention, all resolutions, memorials, and other written submissions will be transferred via electronic transmission to the appropriate committee. And, as deemed necessary, an electronic voting platform be utilized, in accordance with statutory law, to conduct, collect and document for record all voting measures that be conducted.**"; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that minor edits to language described herein be permitted provided no substantial deviation occurs from the context of this resolution; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, This amendment be adopted upon acceptance by The American Legion, Department of Oregon, at the 2021 Department Convention, Canyonville, Oregon.

Submitter:

Cory E. Brockmann

Approved ☐ Rejected ☐ Other Action ☐

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_