

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
TO THE ASSEMBLED DELEGATES OF THE 88th ANNUAL CONVENTION
BOISE, IDAHO August 5th, 2011

Resolution # _____

Whereas: when veterans return from combat, some turn to drugs or alcohol to cope with mental health issues such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and/or Traumatic Brain injury and sadly end up in the criminal justice system, and

Whereas: Veterans Treatment Courts are hybrid Drug Courts and Mental Health Courts and have evolved out of the growing need for a treatment court model designed specifically for justice-involved veterans to maximize efficiency and economize resources while making use of the distinct military culture consistent among veterans, and

Whereas: many veterans have access to exclusive economic benefits and health services through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, State Departments of Veterans Affairs, County Departments of Veterans Affairs, and a variety of additional programs for veterans operated through Veterans Service Organizations at federal, state and local levels, and

Whereas: grouping justice-involved veterans into specific court docket significantly expedites access to veteran-specific resources, including benefits and treatment, earned through military service, and

Whereas: veterans deeply value their military experience and share an inimitable bond among their peers and Veterans Treatment Courts build upon this camaraderie by allowing participants to go through the treatment court process with people who are similarly situated and have common past experiences, and pairing veterans with volunteer veteran mentors, and

Whereas: Veterans Treatment Courts have captured national attention as a critical tool for ensuring veterans in the criminal justice system do not fall through the cracks,

Therefore Be It Resolved: that the delegates and members here assembled at this the 88th Marine Corps League National Annual Convention in Boise, Idaho this 5th day of August in the year of our Supreme Commandant 2011 that we endorse the establishment of Veterans Treatment Courts as a vital court model for serving this nation's justice-involved veterans in need of treatment and restoration.

Be it further resolved: that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to the President, Congress, Department of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

THE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE MOVES FOR ADOPTION REJECTION

Resolution Committee: Chairman Bill Wilson Bill Wilson Department NJ
Member Ron Kiessling RJK Department OH
Member Jim Wade, Jr. JWade Department IN