



Department of Mississippi  
Resolution  
2010 State Convention  
July 15-18, 2010

**WHEREAS:** The Department officer selection process limits many qualified grassroots members from seeking the office of the Department President due to the number of years required to reach that office through the Department Officer positions and the financial burden that accompanies the commitment; and

**WHEREAS:** The Department of Mississippi, American Legion Auxiliary, President Angela Kilcrease formed an Ad Hoc Committee while at the Pre-Mid-Winter Conference Executive Committee Meeting to study the duties of the top Department officers. The committee appointments include Jeanette Ghetti, chair; Joyce Porter and Bessie Ladner; and

**WHEREAS:** The Department 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents are presently serving as membership chairmen, when they have other duties to prepare to serve as Department President and

**WHEREAS:** Membership is the most important committee to keeping our organization alive it is our life's blood, and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The tradition of starting through the Department chairs at the Chaplain level be changed to begin at the Second Vice President level and that the office of Chaplain and Historian may be held by any member, who may or may not desire to continue the path to seek the office of Department President, and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** The position of Membership Chairman be returned to the status of a Standing Committee and be appointed by the President Elect in accordance with the appointment of standing committee chairmen as addressed in the Department Constitution and Bylaws, and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President serve in the new position of **Programs Coordinator**, who will directly work with Department Chairmen, with duties being described in the Officers Guidelines; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President serve as Chairman of the VA & R Committee and the other committee members be appointed by the President Elect.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** the Department Constitution and Bylaws be amended to reflect these changes as follows.

## **BYLAWS**

### **Article III Duties of Officers**

#### **Section 2 ----- Present reading**

Department Vice Presidents: It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents to serve in the absence of the Department President or when requested by her to represent the Department. The Vice Presidents shall keep in close touch with the Units and keep the Department informed of the Unit activities. The First Vice President shall serve as Senior Membership Chairman. The Second Vice President shall serve as Junior Membership Chairman. They shall also perform such other duties as are incident to their offices. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of the Department President, the First Vice President shall perform the duties of that office for the unexpired term.

(a) Should illness or accident permanently incapacitate the Department President, or if for any reason she shall be unable to discharge the duties of President, The Department Secretary shall apprise the Department Executive Committee, submit to its members medical information from three doctors of this incapacitation, and call for a referendum vote to declare the office of the Department President vacant and to authorize the Department First Vice President to assume the duties and authority of the office. If the unexpired term of office for Department is less than six (6) months, the person so named shall be eligible to election by regular process to the office of Department President.

(b) In the event the Department First Vice President thus assumes the office of Department President the Department Executive Committee shall fill the office of Department First Vice President. If this term is less than six (6) months, the person so named is eligible to election by regular process to the office of Department First Vice President.

### **Article III Duties of Officers**

#### **Section 2 ----- New reading**

Department Vice Presidents: It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents to serve in the absence of the Department President or when requested by her to represent the Department. The Vice Presidents shall keep in close touch with the Units and keep the Department informed of the Unit activities. The First Vice President shall serve as Programs Coordinator, working directly with the Department Program Chairmen, and the Second Vice President shall serve as VA & R Chairman, with her committee to be appointed by the President Elect. They shall also perform such other duties as are incident to their offices. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of the Department President, the First Vice President shall perform the duties of that office for the unexpired term.

(a) Should illness or accident permanently incapacitate the Department President, or if for any reason she shall be unable to discharge the duties of President, the Department Secretary shall apprise the Department Executive Committee, submit to its members medical information from three doctors of this incapacitation, and call for a referendum vote to declare the office of the

Department President vacant and to authorize the Department First Vice President to assume the duties and authority of the office. If the unexpired term of office for Department is less than six (6) months, the person so named shall be eligible to election by regular process to the office of Department President.

(b) In the event the Department First Vice President thus assumes the office of Department President the Department Executive Committee shall fill the office of Department First Vice President. If this term is less than six (6) months, the person so named is eligible to election by regular process to the office of Department First Vice President.

## **Article V ---- Standing Committees ---Present Reading**

### **Section 2**

There shall be the following standing committees: Americanism, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Cavalcade of Memories, Children and Youth, Community Service, Constitution and Bylaws, Education, Finance, Girls State, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Membership, National Security, Past Presidents Parley, Poppy, Public Relations, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation.

### **Section 7**

The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee shall consist of four members. Of the following members appointed one shall serve for three year, one for two years, and two for one year: Chairman, Vice Chairman, and two members.

## **Article V ---- Standing Committees ---New Reading**

### **Section 2**

There shall be the following standing committees: Americanism, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Cavalcade of Memories, Children and Youth, Community Service, Constitution and Bylaws, Education, Finance, Girls State, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Membership, National Security, Past Presidents Parley, Poppy, Programs Coordinator (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Public Relations, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Chairman).

### **Section 7**

The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee shall consist of four members: Chairman (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President), Vice Chairman, and two members.

Submitted by  
Officer Duties Ad Hoc Committee

*Jeannette Ghetti* (electronic signature)

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Jeannette Ghetti, Chairman

Bessie Ladner, Member; Joyce Porter, Member