

AN ACT

To incorporate the AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following persons, to wit: Jack W. Hardy, 7421 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, California; Elmo Keel, 4085 Minnesota Avenue Northeast, Washington, District of Columbia; William Enters, suite 1509-1511, 11 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois; Doctor Gerald I. Cetrulo, 166 Bloomfield Avenue, Newark, New Jersey; Norman Clock, 125 South Fourth Street, Reading, Pennsylvania; Floyd Williams, C-2 704 North Monroe Street, Arlington, Virginia; Reverend Joseph T. O'Callaghan, United States Navy Department, Washington, District of Columbia; George R. Porter, 1730 South Adams Street, Fort Worth, Texas; Robert E. McLaughlin, 800 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia; Ray Sawyer, Plymouth, New Hampshire; James C. Tate, 2 Wilton Road, Rural Free Delivery Numbered 5, Alexandria, Virginia; George E. Burke, 1126 Central Avenue, Saint Petersburg, Florida; A. Ronald Button, 6331 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood 28, California; Americus Lambert, 515 West Seventh Street, Plainfield, New Jersey; Emory S. McNider, Coffeyville, Alabama; Allen Hansen, 815 East Broadway, Tucson, Arizona; Edward S. Shattuck, 1400 North Hobart Boulevard, Los Angeles, California; Elvon L. Howell, 652 Gilpin Street, Denver, Colorado; William N. Welsh, 21 Bristol Street, West Haven, Connecticut; Francis D. Odell, 18 Lawson Avenue, Claymont, Delaware; George Lewis, 125 State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia; Lee Witaski, 1438 Thordale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; Doctor Clyde Longstreth, Atlantic, Iowa; Harry N. Gillig, Junior, 612 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas; John H. Ostertag, 955 Charles Street, Louisville, Kentucky; Otto E. Passman, 114-120 Walnut Street, post-office drawer 1833, Monroe, Louisiana; Doctor G. E. Marrone, 610 Fairview Avenue, Frederick, Maryland; Howard J. McDonald, 4 College Street, Lewiston, Maine; Edward J. Beauchamp, 4 College Street, Lewiston, Maine; Albert J. Reynolds, Tremont Temple Building, Boston, Massachusetts; Neil Holland, 401 Charlevoix Building, 2033 Park Avenue, Detroit, Michigan; Monte M. Korn, 18041 Washburn, Detroit, Michigan; Raymond D. Vosburgh, 222½ West Lewis Street, Mankato, Minnesota; George R. Gess, box 47, Mount Olive, Mississippi; Henry W. Simpson, room 500, 119 North Seventh Street, Saint Louis, Missouri; R. C. Letcher, Billings Fire Department, Billings, Montana; Doctor A. D. Faier, 1102 Medical Arts Building, Omaha, Nebraska; Jay J. Strode, Wells, Nevada; N. L. Samaha, C-1, 1 Keeble Street, Plymouth, New Hampshire; William Hepp, 1918 Liberty Bank Building, Buffalo, New York; Huston W. Galyen, 1121 Sixteenth Avenue North, Fargo, North Dakota; Carl Freudenberg, 1298 Michigan Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio; Fred Milligan, attorney at law, Columbus, Ohio; Joseph D. Stafford, route 2, box 662, Oklahama City, Oklahoma; Anthony R. McGrath, 609 Plaza Building, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Harry M. DeWitt, Junior, 2316 Fortieth Street Northwest, Washington, District of Columbia; Robert W. Donald, post-office box 2, Easley, South Carolina; Dick Kelly, Shaw Insurance Company, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Alex Bullocks, 1464 Washington Street, Memphis, Tennessee; Thomas J. Russell, Burlington, Vermont; John E. Fletcher, 806 North Eye Street, Tacoma, Washington; R. L. Stubbs, Professional Building, Fairmont, West Virginia; Walter L. Thompson, 1316 Lombard, Everett, Washington; Robert A. Garrett, 163 Eccles Building, Ogden, Utah; Searcy Johnson, 805 Mercantile Building, Dallas, Texas; Hampton C. Godbe, 116 P Street, Salt Lake City, Utah; Allen P. Solada, 311 Dauphin Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; George Vukmanic, 221 Martin Avenue, Pittsburgh 16, Pennsylvania; Royce C. Granger, 102 East Eighteenth Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Charles E. Nassif, 1023 Thirteenth Street North, Fargo, North Dakota; Paul D. Higgins, 104½ Broadway, Fargo, North Dakota; Edmund P. Radwan, 906 Broadway, Buffalo, New York; Alexander J. Maturria, 234 Mount Prospect Avenue, Newark, New Jersey; J. F. Roche, Bond Building, 1015 Elm Street, Manchester, New Hampshire; Kenneth A. Van Vorst, 114 East Bonanza Road, Las Vegas, Nevada; Julian C. Harvey, 1731 Walnut Street, Kansas City, Missouri; John Wesley, box 482, Picaune, Mississippi; Claude C. Morgan, 810 Hammond Building, Detroit, Michigan; Edward A. Trudell, 26 Horan Way, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts; Vincent C. Neeson, Labelle and Bellona, Ruxton, Baltimore 4, Maryland; R. L. Huot, 106 Elm Street, Biddeford, Maine; John E. Sutherland, Sutherland Sales Company, Industries Building, New Orleans, Louisiana; Thomas Wilkerson, 1600 Washington, Henderson, Kentucky; John C. Junkins, Cherokee, Kansas; Doctor C. W. Hoffman, 1340 Forty-first Street, Des Moines, Iowa; Allen W. Jenkins, 1015 Cherry Street, Evansville, Indiana; Edwin I. Bruder, 6837 Clyde Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; Harry P. Orcutt, Fort Benning, Georgia; Arthur Di Vincent, post-office box 4579, Miami 28, Florida; Maurice B. Marholin, 176 McClintock Road, New Britain, Connecticut; Harry Steinberg, First National Bank Building, El Dorado, Arkansas; Jess Curtiss, 807 North Third Street, Phoenix, Arizona; Edward S. Coston, 69 Ninth Street North, Birmingham, Alabama; Anthony O. Jones, 315 Security Building, Phoenix, Arizona; Frank Dee Scriven, 8474 West Third Street, Los Angeles 36, California; Allen C. Hessler, 1275 Clarkson Street, Number 4, Denver 3, Colorado; Michael Dzakmi, 3912 First Street, East Chicago, Indiana; S. Howard Rudolph, Junior, Atlantic, Iowa; Fred K. Greer, 427 East Market Street, Princeton, Kentucky; Roy Morgan, Winnfield, Louisiana; James C. Wilt, 842 Columbia Avenue, Cumberland, Maryland; Chester Modzelewski, 67 Davenport Street, Chicopee, Massachusetts; Arthur Madar, 9166 Yorkshire, Detroit, Michigan; John J. Clark, 257 Harrison Street, Biloxi, Mississippi; William E. Blake, 73 Grey, Buffalo 12, New York; Albert Geremia, room 303, 17 Exchange Street, Providence, Rhode Island; Frank E. Richter, 3, 12-14 West Sixth Street, Evansville, Indiana; Frank J. Ross, 1020 East Pleasant, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Conrad K. Strauss, 160 Holland Avenue, Coweset, Rhode Island; Paul S. Limerick, 456 Catalina, Webster Groves, Missouri; Raymond O'Brien, 22 North Ryan Street, Buffalo, New York; Dallas P. Richeson, post-office box 2226, Phoenix, Arizona; Fred Nimz, route 6, box 815A, Phoenix, Arizona; Tom Bulman, 243 East Fifteenth Street, Tucson, Arizona; Charles E. Brode, 15 North Lee Street, Cumberland, Maryland; Clyde B. Blanton, 2095 Seventh Avenue, North, Saint Petersburg, Florida; Floyd Cooper, 912 Polk Street, Amarillo, Texas; Paul Moody, 548 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, California; Oliver A. Farabee, Lexington, North Carolina; Thad Males, 329 West Valerio Street, Santa Barbara, California; and such persons who are members of the AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II) and their successors, are hereby created and declared to be a body corporate by the name AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II) and by such name shall be known and have perpetual succession of the powers, limitations, and restrictions herein contained.

SEC. 2. That a majority of the persons above named and other persons selected from among the membership of AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II), an unincorporated association as set forth in section 1 hereof, met in national convention in Chicago, Illinois, on October 12, 13, and 14, 1945, and then and there, by and through duly elected delegates representing one hundred and thirty-one posts throughout the United States adopted a national constitution, bylaws, and declaration of principles and duly elected national officers for said organization, all as set forth in the Congressional Record, proceedings and debates of the Seventy-ninth Congress, first session, on November 6 and 7, 1945.

SEC. 3. That the purposes of this corporation shall be as follows:

- (1) To preserve for ourselves and our posterity the great and basic truths and enduring principles upon which this Nation was founded.
- (2) To maintain a continuing interest in the welfare and rehabilitation of the disabled veterans of World War II and to establish facilities for the assistance of all veterans and to represent them in their claims before the Veterans' Administration and other organizations without charge.
- (3) To dedicate ourselves to the service and best interests of the community, State, and Nation, to the end that our country shall be and remain forever a whole, strong, and free Nation.
- (4) To aid and encourage the abolition of prejudice, ignorance, and disease. To encourage universal exercise of the voting franchise, to the end that there shall be elected and maintained in public office men and women who hold such office as a public trust administered in the best interests of all the people.
- (5) To advocate the development and means by which all Americans may become enlightened and informed citizens and thus participate fully in the functions of our democracy.
- (6) To encourage and support an international organization of all peace-loving nations, to the end that not again shall any nation be permitted to breach their national peace.
- (7) To continue to serve the best interests of our Nation in peace as in war.
- (8) To develop to the utmost the human, mental, spiritual, and economical resources of our Nation.
- (9) To perpetuate and preserve the friendships and comradeship born on the battle front and nurtured in the common experience of service to our Nation during time of war.
- (10) To honor the memory of those men and women who gave their lives that a free America and a free world might live by the creation of living memorials in the form of additional educational, cultural, and recreational facilities.
- (11) To operate as a corporation not for profit and that no part of the income or assets shall inure to the benefit of any of its members, directors, or officers, nor be distributable thereto otherwise than upon dissolution or final liquidation; and that such corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable, educational, patri-

otic, and civic improvement purposes.

SEC. 4. That the corporation hereby created shall have the following powers: To have perpetual succession with power to sue and be sued in any court of competent jurisdiction; take and hold by lease, gift, purchase, grant, devise, or bequest any property, real or personal, necessary for attaining the objects and carrying into effect the purposes of the corporation, subject, however, to applicable provisions of law of any State (A) governing the amount or kind of real and personal property which may be held by, or (B) otherwise limiting or controlling the ownership of real and personal property by, a corporation operating in such State; to ordain and establish bylaws and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of the United States of America or any State thereof, for the management of its property and the regulation of its affairs; to use in carrying out its purposes such seals, emblems, and badges as it may lawfully adopt; to establish State and regional organizations and local posts; to publish magazines, newspapers, or any other publications consistent with the purposes of the corporation and to do any and all such acts and things as may be necessary and proper to carry into effect the purposes of the corporation.

SEC. 5. (1) No part of the activities of the corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda.

(2) The corporation and its officers and the members of its executive committee as such shall not contribute to or otherwise support or assist any political party or candidate for elective public office.

(3) The current executive committee consists of forty members, namely, Ray Sawyer, Plymouth, New Hampshire; Jack W. Hardy, Title Guaranty Building, Los Angeles, California; Albert J. Reynolds, 3117 Washington Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts; L. M. Hinshaw, box 558, Asheboro, North Carolina; J. M. Crespi, Sims Building, 12 Auburn Avenue Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia; Arthur J. Madar, 9166 Yorkshire, Detroit 24, Michigan; Kenneth A. Anderson, 7166 South Penn Street, Denver, Colorado; Anthony O. Jones, 315 Security Building, Phoenix, Arizona; Agnes Frazee, post-office box 751, Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Floyd Williams, C-2, 704 North Monroe Street, Arlington, Virginia; William Kipp, 1032 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois; John J. Carney, 308 Leader Building, Cleveland, Ohio; Doctor John S. Weir, 618 South Main Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; Reverend Sam Hill Ray, Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana; Nathan Gordon, Little Rock, Arkansas; Thad Males, 329 West Valerio Street, Santa Barbara, California; Al Grossi, Farmington, Connecticut; Harry M. De Witt, Junior, 2316 Fortieth Street Northwest, Washington, District of Columbia; George E. Burke, 1126 Central Avenue, Saint Petersburg, Florida; Charles L. Crowley, 935 Oglethorpe Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia; L. Harlan Swisher, 306 Davidson Drive, Champaign, Illinois; Arthur Schnipper, 4334 Ivy Street, East Chicago, Indiana; Robert Buckmaster, 158 Woodstock Road, Waterloo, Iowa; William C. Moss, Bogalusa, Louisiana; Edward J. Beauchamp, 163 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, Maine; Thomas Burke, 222 South Street, Fitchburg, Massachusetts; Milton F. Cooney, 55 Naomi Street, Pontiac, Michigan; Paul Limerick, 456 Catalina, Webster Groves, Missouri; Louis W. Zaris, 331 Guarantee Trust Building, Atlantic City, New Jersey; William Hepp, 176 Lafayette Street, Buffalo, New York; J. C. Powell, box 830, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; E. L. Hallowell, 455 Forest Avenue, Dayton, Ohio; K. L. Shirk, 33 North Duke Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Albert Geremia, 277 Webster Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island; Richard H. Dewey, 251 Madison Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee; Ivan Stone, 2708 West Lamar, Houston, Texas; Doctor M. H. Seidner, 406 First Security Bank Building, Ogden, Utah; J. C. McCaughan, Junior, 1904 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia; John E. Howell, Junior, 1110½ Seventeenth Street, Parkersburg, West Virginia; and Kenneth Kunde, Quonset Park, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

(4) The headquarters office and principal place of business of said corporation shall be located in Washington, District of Columbia, but the activities of said organization, as set out herein, shall not be confined to the District of Columbia, but shall be conducted throughout the various States, Territories, and possessions of the United States.

SEC. 6. Any American citizen shall be eligible for membership in the AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II) who was regularly enlisted, inducted, or commissioned, and who was accepted for, or was on, active duty in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard of the United States, or our allies on or after September 16, 1940, and who served between this date and the date of cessation of hostilities, as established by the Government of the United States. Service with the armed forces must have been terminated by honorable discharge or honorable separation from the service: *Provided, however*, That persons otherwise eligible for membership who are on active duty or who must continue to serve after the cessation of hostilities are also eligible for membership.

SEC. 7. (1) Each member of the said corporation shall have the right to one vote in the conduct of official business at the post level. Each post shall have the right to elect delegates to national conventions of the corporation, which delegates shall each exercise one vote in the conduct of business of the respective convention to which he is elected.

(2) The executive committee of the said corporation shall consist of one member duly elected to represent each department, and, in addition, all elective officers shall be members of the executive committee, ex officio.

SEC. 8. The said corporation may and shall acquire all of the assets of the existing unincorporated association known as AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II) upon discharge or satisfactory provisions for the discharge of all its liabilities.

SEC. 9. In the event of a final dissolution or liquidation of such corporation, and after the discharge or satisfactory provisions for the discharge of all its liabilities, the remaining assets of the said corporation shall be transferred to the Veterans' Administration to be applied to the care and comfort of disabled veterans of World War II.

SEC. 10. The corporation shall have power to—

- (1) Have succession by its corporate name;
- (2) Choose such officers, representatives, and agents as are necessary to carry out the purposes of the corporation;
- (3) Contract and be contracted with;
- (4) Transfer and convey all real or personal property;
- (5) Borrow money for the purposes of the corporation, issue bonds therefor, and secure same by mortgage subject in every case to all applicable provisions of Federal or State laws.

SEC. 11. The corporation shall be liable for the acts of its officials, representatives, and agents when acting within the scope of their authority.

SEC. 12. The corporation shall maintain in the District of Columbia at all times a designated agent authorized to accept services of processes for such corporation; and notice to or service upon such agent, or mail to the business address of such agent, shall be deemed notice or service upon the corporation.

SEC. 13. The following national officers of the said corporation shall be elected by the chosen delegates thereof in annual national conventions, each official delegate casting one vote, to wit: National commander and seven national vice commanders, one of whom shall be a woman; finance officer, adjutant, judge advocate, and provost marshal.

SEC. 14. The corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its members, executive committee, and committees having any of the authority of the executive committee; and shall keep at its registered office or principal office a record giving the names and addresses of its members entitled to vote; and permit all books and records of the corporation to be inspected by any member or his agent or his attorney for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

SEC. 15. The corporation shall not have or issue shares of stock, nor declare or pay dividends.

SEC. 16. No loan shall be made by the corporation to its officers or directors, or any of them, and any directors of the corporation who vote for or assent to the making of a loan or advance to an officer or director of the corporation, and any officer or officers participating in the making of any such loan or advance, shall be jointly and severally liable to the corporation for the amount of such loan until the repayment thereof.

SEC. 17. The corporation and its State, regional, and local subdivisions shall have the sole and exclusive right to have and use in carrying out its purposes the name AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II), and such seals, emblems, and badges as the corporation may lawfully adopt.

SEC. 18. As a condition precedent to the exercise of any power or privilege herein granted or conferred AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II) shall serve notice on the secretary of state, in each State, of the name and address of an authorized agent in such State upon whom legal process or demands against this corporation may be served.

SEC. 19. Such provisions, privileges, and prerogatives as have been granted heretofore to other national veterans' organizations by virtue of their being incorporated by Congress are hereby granted and accrue to AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II).

SEC. 20. The right to repeal, alter, or amend this Act at any time is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved July 23, 1947.