



Veterans of Foreign Wars RESOLUTION for the SAR Flag

Whereas the VFW is committed to the welfare of all Veterans and has always taken its pro-active stance for their benefit seriously as stated in the VFW motto, "No one does more for Veterans;" and

Whereas the VFW is well informed about the difficulty and hardships of serving the country for all Military Personnel, as well as the potential of the battlefield to cause grievous harm to the mental health of Military Personnel, and to render them disabled by the unseen wounds of war and permanently changed; and

Whereas the nationwide consequence of such mental health ailments is the tragic and preventable loss of more than 20 Veterans and Military per day by suicide, and

Whereas most if not all of these deaths can be prevented, the need to raise our continued awareness of the ongoing epidemic, to recognize and remember those lost, to break the stigma associated with mental health and suicide, and to further work on suicide prevention, and deputize all caring and informed Veterans as Advocates for one another, and

Whereas there is power in unity and the SAR Flag serves as an effective, tangible, and affirming symbol of the movement to break the stigma of mental health and suicide, and to recognize and forever remember Active-Duty Military Personnel and Veterans who died by suicide, as well as to show respect, unite, and honor the Families of the Fallen; and

Whereas that having more than 20 Veterans and Military die by suicide daily is a totally unacceptable situation requiring an urgent response in breaking the stigma of mental health and suicide, raising our continued awareness, to facilitate prevention;

Be it therefore resolved that;

The VFW urgently supports a call on the US Congress to break the stigma of mental health and suicide via the SAR Flag to facilitate and allow for Veterans to willingly seek mental health treatment, and to work further on suicide prevention; and

Be it further resolved that;

The SAR Flag be adopted nationally to appropriately fly with the National Ensign and the POW / MIA Flag; and

Be it further resolved that;

"Veterans Suicide Awareness & Remembrance Day" on September 22nd be officially recognized as an annual observance by the VFW to raise our continued awareness of Veteran & Military suicide, recognize and forever remember our Veterans and Military lost to suicide, and to honor, unite, and respect their families.