

EIGHTY-EIGHTH NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
AUGUST 29, 30, 31, 2006

RESOLUTION NO.:147

**SUBJECT: Open-Ended Presumptive Period for
Undiagnosed Illnesses for Gulf War
Veterans**

Origin: Connecticut

Submitted by: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

WHEREAS, Thousands of Gulf War veterans still suffer from chronic unexplained physical symptoms; and

WHEREAS, Many service members who have served in the Southwest Asia theater since the 1991 Gulf War - including those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom - have also been exhibiting chronic, unexplained physical symptoms; and

WHEREAS, The Gulf War Era has not been officially concluded; and

WHEREAS, There has recently been some progress in research on the long-term health effects of many of the agents Gulf War veterans were potentially exposed to during the Gulf War, but numerous symptoms experienced by sick Gulf War veterans are still not well understood, the causes of such symptoms remain elusive and answers could likely remain evasive for some time; and

WHEREAS, Additional research into the long-term health effects of exposures is needed, a fact confirmed the Department of Veterans Affairs Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses; and

WHEREAS, The current presumptive period for undiagnosed illnesses expires January 1, 2007; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Salt Lake City, Utah, August 29, 30, 31, 2006, That The American Legion urge that legislation be enacted to extend the presumptive period for service connection of Gulf War veterans with undiagnosed illnesses indefinitely.