

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Louisville, Kentucky  
August 24, 2009**

**Resolution No. 2: The American Legion Policy on DOD's Medical Health System and National Health Care Reform**

Origin: National Security Commission

Submitted by : National Security Commission

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense's (DOD's) Medical Health System (MHS) mission is to provide optimal health services in support of the nation's military mission—anytime, anywhere; and

WHEREAS, DOD's MHS is a unique partnership of medical educators, medical researchers, health care providers and their support personnel worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The President is committed to working with Congress to pass comprehensive health reform in order to control rising health care costs, guarantee choice of doctor, and assure high-quality, affordable health care for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, The MHS has a defined patient population consisting of military health care beneficiaries; and

WHEREAS, Not all eligible beneficiaries are currently enrolled within the MHS; and

WHEREAS, The MHS has demonstrated the ability to provide timely access to quality health care to both adults and children within the health care delivery system or through contracted services (TRICARE and TRICARE for Life); and

WHEREAS, Consequently, there are many immediate family members who are eligible to enroll in the MHS; and

WHEREAS, TRICARE is the second-payer for military beneficiaries with private health care insurance; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of the American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Louisville, Kentucky, August 24, 2009, That The American Legion supports health care reform that assures all active-duty service members, members of the Reserve components, military retirees (to include Temporary Early Retirement Authority (TERA) and Chapter 61 retirees), and their families, especially those who are uninsured or underinsured, have timely access to quality health care within DOD's Medical Health System; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion urge Congress to ensure that DOD's Medical Health System beneficiaries are not taxed or adversely impacted by any provision in the national health care reform legislation.**