

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
MAY 6 - 7, 2015**

**Resolution No. 28: Department of Veterans Affairs Appeals Process  
Origin: Register Resolution No. 2717 (AK) Department Convention  
Submitted By: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

WHEREAS, The Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) was established in July 1933 and was given the authority to hear appeals on benefit decisions; and

WHEREAS, Per Title 38, United States Code (USC), section 7101, members of BVA should conduct hearings and dispose of appeals properly before the Board in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, BVA has witnessed a drastic increase of more than 56 percent of appealed claims from April 2010 to April 2015; and

WHEREAS, Veterans electing to appeal a decision rendered by the VA can expect to wait in excess of four years for a decision from BVA; and

WHEREAS, VA aims to adjudicate veterans' claims within 125 days with 98 percent accuracy, but did not account for appealed claims; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 2015, That The American Legion urge the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to address all claims, to include its growing inventory of appeals in an expeditious and accurate manner; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That VA create no program that diminishes a veteran's due process rights.**