

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
October 13 & 14, 2012

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No.: SAL Res 1 – Fall 2012

Title: Background Screening Procedures And Policies For Sons of The American Legion Youth Program Volunteers

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, An economic news release by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, shows that nearly 26 percent of all volunteer hours worked throughout the United States in 2011 were contributed toward educational or youth-related organizations; and

WHEREAS, Youth programs of the Sons of The American Legion rely heavily upon dedicated volunteers willing to contribute time and skills for executing essential functions of the programs; and

WHEREAS, The aftermath of recent high-profile allegations of child sexual molestation across the United States has demonstrated the importance for ensuring protection of vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, Through numerous resolutions over the years The American Legion and Sons of The American Legion has advocated for guarding against child neglect and abuse; and

WHEREAS, Screening, clearly established polices, instruction, and oversight are all effective elements of volunteer management that can help uphold the integrity and safety of a youth program and mitigate the risk and liability to an organization; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 4, approved by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 9-10, 2012, that The American Legion implement procedures that will require background screening of volunteers selected to staff national tournaments of American Legion Baseball, The American Legion Boys Nation, The American Legion National Oratorical Contest, The American Legion National Junior Shooting Competition, and National Boy Scout Jamborees effective in 2013 and that said background screenings be conducted annually prior to the start of each program; and said background screenings only be conducted by the vendor authorized by the National Organization of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 12, approved by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 9-10, 2012, strongly encouraged the departments of The American Legion to establish background screening procedures and policies similar to those of the National

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Bob Brown

Bob Brown, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Mark Tansel

Mark Tansel, Chairman, Internal Affairs Commission

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Organization for volunteers supporting youth programs conducted within their departments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 13-14, 2012, That background screening procedures and policies be established by the Sons of The American Legion for our Sons support staff to the National American Legion's National Americanism Commission, Children & Youth Commission, and the Child Welfare Foundation Committee be conducted no later than with the execution of each program in 2013 and every year thereafter, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That background screening procedures and policies be established by the Sons of The American Legion which require all appointees to the National Americanism, National Children & Youth Commission, and the National Child Welfare Foundation Committee to complete a favorable screening each year prior to commencing on said Commission/Committee appointment; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That Detachments of the Sons of The American Legion are strongly urged and encouraged to establish screening procedures and policies, similar to those of the National Organization for those volunteers supporting youth programs conducted within their departments.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Bob Brown

Bob Brown, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Mark Tansel

Mark Tansel, Chairman, Internal Affairs Commission