

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA
102nd ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
THE HILTON, HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
JULY 15 – 18, 2021**

Resolution No. 102-3

Submitted by: William Whitmoyer
Legislative Committee Chairman

WHEREAS, The American Legion has long been a staunch advocate for smooth transition from military life to civilian, and the utilization, in civilian life, of skills developed through military service; and

WHEREAS, Veterans and military personnel face too many obstacles that their fellow students do not face, especially when it comes to transitioning to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, Today's military is very well trained and the individuals that make up the United States military are very professional; and

WHEREAS, These individuals sacrifice so much to receive optimal training to defend this country and we as a state should step up to the plate and assist our heroes as well as their families in their transitions back to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, Based on their military experiences and training, our military personnel and Veterans may have college credit recommendations that can be applied towards a degree requirement or program of study; and

WHEREAS, The American Council on Education (ACE) works under a contract from the Department of Defense that is administered by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) to conduct and facilitate academic reviews of military courses and occupations; and

WHEREAS, Schools rely on ACE to review various types of military training and experience and recommend how to translate them into academic credits; however, as with transfers, each school makes the final decision on how much credit, if any, to award, and schools choose whether or not to accept the recommendations made by ACE; and

WHEREAS, Legislation could require the public institutions to adopt a policy to award academic credit for military training, if it is recommended by a national higher education association, noted on the student's military transcript or documented in writing by any of the armed forces of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Such legislation will assist our military personnel with their transitions to civilian life, and benefit the Commonwealth through facilitating the educational goals of our Veterans; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That The Pennsylvania American Legion Department of Pennsylvania in Convention assembled at the Harrisburg Hilton Hotel, Harrisburg, PA, July 15-18, 2021, does affirm its support for legislation that would require the public institutions to adopt a policy to award academic credit for military training, if it is recommended by a national higher education association, noted on the student's military transcript or documented in writing by any of the armed forces of the United States; and be it further

RESOLVED, That The Pennsylvania American Legion Department Executive Committee calls upon the Pennsylvania General Assembly to pass such legislation, and encourages Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf to thereafter expediently enact it by signing it into law; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the members of both Chambers of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for their immediate action; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf.

APPROVED X REJECTED _____ REFERRED _____ CONSOLIDATED _____ FILED _____