

RESOLUTION NO. 2841

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, SUPPORTING THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA'S NOVEMBER 6, 2014 RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE WORKFLOW AT THE PHOENIX VETERANS AFFAIRS HOSPITAL AND BENEFITS FACILITIES AND ALSO CALLING ON CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION FOR THE AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT OF FORMER SERVICE MEMBERS IN THE VETERANS AFFAIRS PATIENT ENROLLMENT SYSTEM.**

**WHEREAS**, on November 6, 2014, the American Legion Department of Arizona adopted a resolution forming an ad-hoc committee comprised of veteran service organization experts and independent document management and software experts to study and improve the technology infrastructure and processes utilized to care for veterans at the Phoenix Veterans Affairs hospital and benefits facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Legion Department of Arizona's resolution also calls on Congress to enact legislation integrating new and existing systems to automatically add service members to the Veteran Affairs patient/benefits enrollment system at the service members' point of separation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council agree that supporting veterans is important to the well-being of our nation and community,

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** That the Town of Payson supports the American Legion Department of Arizona's November 6, 2014 resolution, attached hereto as Exhibit A, supporting efforts to improve workflow at the Phoenix Veterans Affairs hospital and benefits facilities and also calling on Congress to enact legislation for the automatic enrollment of former service members in the Veterans Affairs patient enrollment system.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA**, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2015, by the following vote:

**AYES \_\_\_\_\_ NOES \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTENTIONS \_\_\_\_\_ ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenny J. Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Silvia Smith, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hector M. Figueroa, Town Attorney

APR 02 2015 *J. Z*

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA**  
**Tony F. Sosa / Ray Martinez Thunderbird Post 41**  
**715 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave**  
**Phoenix, Arizona 85003**

**Date: November 6, 2014**

**Action: Department Approval and Recommendation to National for Acceptance**

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Arizona continues to be recognized as “ground zero” for the systemic Veterans Health Care Crisis; and

WHEREAS, Reports of the existing state of the Administration and the Veterans Administration continues to inhibit progress for a solution mandated by congress and the Veterans Service Organizations (VSO’s) for the national systemic Veterans healthcare/Benefits crisis; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Houston, Texas, August 27,28,29, 2013, That the American Legion urges congress to enact legislation to direct automatic enrollment of service members separating from the Department of Defense (DOD) active duty, guard or reserve under other than dishonorable conditions into the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) patient enrollment system under title 38, United States Codes, section 1705; and

WHEREAS, The DOD provides the contact information of a transitioning Veteran to VA whereby the Veteran would be pre-enrolled until such time that the Veteran contacts the VA to activate the enrollment in VA’s patient enrollment system; and

WHEREAS, If a service member does not choose to enroll into VA’s patient/benefits enrollment system, such person can opt out of enrolling by providing a notice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of their decision to decline enrollment; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 75: Automatic Enrollment, submitted by Convention Committee on Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation which was “resolved” by the American Legion was never executed following the 95<sup>th</sup> National Convention of The American Legion August 27, 28, 29, 2013; and

WHEREAS, There is needed, a process for addition of the service member’s information to the VA patient/benefits enrollment system and to the medical records/benefits document management system, starting an electronic workflow to assure medical/benefits records are scanned into the system; and,

WHEREAS, An immediate posted electronic record will allow for streamlined and audited processes triggering requests for service; and

WHEREAS, Intelligent capture software and the utilization of existing/new hardware will allow for integration into new or existing document management systems; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, BY THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA, IN REGULAR CONVENTION SESSION ON June 26-28, 2015, AT Carefree, Arizona, That The American Legion Department of Arizona forms an ad-hoc committee comprised of VSO experts and independent document management and software experts to study and assess the Phoenix VA hospital and Benefits facilities to find inefficiencies in the technology infrastructure and processes utilized to care for Veteran’s; and be it finally RESOLVED, That the Department of Arizona advance to National Headquarters, a solution to provide for the integration of new and existing systems to automatically add the service member to the VA patient/benefits enrollment system at the point of separation.**

**EXHIBIT “A”**

*to Resolution No. 2841*

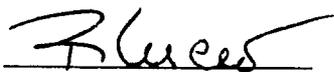
**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA**

**Tony F. Sosa / Ray Martinez Thunderbird Post 41**

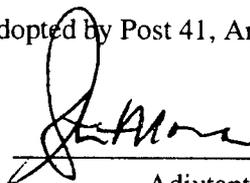
**715 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave**

**Phoenix, Arizona 85003**

This will certify that the above resolution was adopted by Post 41, American Legion, Department of Arizona, on the 6<sup>TH</sup> day of NOVEMBER, 2014.



Commander



Adjutant