RESOLUTION No. 4

WHEREAS, the VFW Commander-in-Chief and the National Auxiliary President traversed the country this year, speaking at various engagements, stating the VFW and its Auxiliary is a family organization and further encouraged family members to join the Auxiliary and for bachelor Posts to create Auxiliaries, yet the Auxiliary currently excludes non-citizen family members from its ranks, and

WHEREAS, the primary factor for VFW Auxiliary eligibility should be based on the Veteran’s service and not on family members’ personal qualifications, and

WHEREAS, the bachelor Departments of Europe and the Pacific Areas exist with over 15,600 and 11,800 members respectively, many of whose family members live without the benefits of participation in VFW Auxiliary programs, and

WHEREAS, these foreign born family members living overseas, with access to military benefits, are often forgotten by the American military community after the Veteran sponsor’s demise and membership in the VFW Auxiliary would be one way to mitigate this, and

WHEREAS, 4 U.S. Code § 9. Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of flag, provides for citizens of other countries during flag ceremonies to respectfully rise, stand upright with arms at the side, looking at the flag, with no talking or bodily movements, and

WHEREAS, VFW By-Laws, Section 1102, Eligibility for membership in the VFW Auxiliary lists no requirement for family members to have U.S. Citizenship, and

WHEREAS, “Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes” is not a trait mutually exclusive to American citizens, and

WHEREAS, membership in the VFW Auxiliary could serve as a method to further instill American pride and patriotism in these family members, which could lead to a personal desire to become American citizens; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the words “Members must be citizens of the United States” be deleted from Article 1 Membership, Section 101-Eligibility, page 5, first paragraph, last sentence of the By-Laws and Ritual of the Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Submitted by Department of Delaware Auxiliary:

Resolution adopted: [March 14, 2020]

Department of Delaware President: [Signature]

[Signature] Sr. Vice President
[Signature] Sr. Vice President
[Signature] Secretary

[Signature] Dept. Treasurer