

50 RECOMMENDATIONS OF VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS, 1969

quested to pass legislation for an additional allowance within the DIC and Death Benefits programs of \$50 per month for those widows who acquire a disability or disabilities causing them to become housebound.

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RESOLUTION 67—INCREASE BASIC MONTHLY RATE OF DIC FROM \$120 TO \$130

Whereas under the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation program a widow whose husband died from service connected causes receives basic compensation of \$120 per month plus 12 percent of the amount paid the deceased in the last rate or rank held in service, and

Whereas there has been no increase in the basic rate of DIC since 1963 despite a substantial increase in the cost of living, and

Whereas payments of DIC have increased slightly with each military pay increase, widows of veterans who were in the lowest pay grades have benefited but very little: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968, That the basic rate for DIC be increased from \$120 to \$130 per month and that the 12 percent of base pay provision be retained.*

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RESOLUTION 68—RECOMMENDS ENTITLEMENT CRITERIA FOR AUTOMOBILES FOR VIETNAM VETERANS BE MADE TO CORRESPOND WITH THAT OF WORLD WAR II AND KOREAN CONFLICT VETERANS

Whereas assistance towards the purchase of an automobile was initially provided by law for veterans of World War II who suffered service connected loss or loss of use of limbs or specified organic functions, and

Whereas the same benefit was extended to qualifying veterans of the Korean Conflict, and

Whereas PL-90-77 effective October 1, 1967, extended these benefits to eligible veterans of service after January 31, 1955, and

Whereas PL-90-77 requires that the qualifying disability must have been incurred "in line of duty as a direct result of the performance of military duty," thus requiring veterans of wartime service on or after August 5, 1964 to meet the same limitation as post-Korean and peacetime veterans; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968, feels that the present legal restrictions constitute inequality to Vietnam era veterans and recommends that legislation be sponsored to provide automobile grants for Vietnam veterans on the same basis as for veterans of World War II and the Korean Conflict.*

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RESOLUTION 74—MUSTERING-OUT-PAY FOR VIETNAM ERA VETERANS

Whereas many American men and women serving on active duty in time of war and conflicts are being discharged from service without the benefit of mustering out pay, and

Whereas the Federal Government has awarded veterans of past wars mustering out pay: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968, propose that any veteran who served in a situation simulating war or in direct support of such operations be given mustering out pay to be paid by the United States Government.*

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RESOLUTION 131—EQUALIZE THE VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Whereas the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952 limited educational assistance or training to one and one-half days of education for each day of service. Thus a veteran who had been in service for twenty-four months was eligible for thirty-six months of educational benefits, sufficient to obtain a full four-year college degree, and

Whereas the Veterans' Readjustment Act of 1966 limits educational assistance or training to one month of education for each month of active duty, and