

RESOLUTION 243—REQUESTING A UNIFORM DEFINITION OF THE WORDS
"SOLE-SURVIVING SONS"

Whereas great inconsistency now exists between the Selective Service System and the Department of Defense of the United States of America regarding the definition of "sole-surviving" sons, and

Whereas this inconsistency and non-uniformity has caused and is causing great and unbearable hardships on war-torn families of the United States, particularly on the permanently and totally disabled veteran with total service-connected disabilities who have only one son, and

Whereas an extreme hardship is by all evidence and reasoning created when an only son of a totally disabled veteran is drafted involuntarily, and

Whereas the above named sons are now eligible for hardship, exemptions but some local boards are unable to understand this fact, and in most cases are unaware of it, and

Whereas most of these sons soon become eligible for a hardship discharge immediately after entering the armed forces as per Defense Department Directive number 1315.2 of July 29, 1966, and

Whereas most of these same sons are soon discharged after entering service, thereby wasting the taxpayer's money, wasting the armed forces time and energy and creating an unnecessary situation and hardship to everyone concerned, and

Whereas by drafting such sons this Nation is punishing and wounding the stated disabled veteran all over again, establishing a "double kill" situation which could cause the veteran's death, and

Whereas the words compassion and decency in dealing with this situation has somehow been overlooked by the Congress, and

Whereas the Selective Service System, Washington Headquarters, and the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters, have agreed with the Disabled American Veterans in a conference and discussions held in Washington, D.C., that the regulations governing these two agencies should be uniform in regard to their application concerning the definition of a "sole surviving son", and

Whereas the great American organization, Disabled American Veterans and other war veterans and private citizens believe and hold the opinion that sole sons of the totally disabled veterans, with total service connected disability, should be placed in the same category as the sole surviving sons now listed in Section 6(0) of the Universal Military Training and Service Act: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968, Petition the Congress of the United States for immediate enactment of legislation amending Section 6(0) of The Universal Military Training and Service Act to include in the term "sole surviving sons" those sole surviving sons of veterans whose service connected disabilities are rated as totally disabling by the Veterans Administration.

RESOLUTION 279—NATIONAL CEMETERIES

Whereas Arlington National Cemetery was set aside for the expressed purpose to provide burial for members of the Armed Forces as well as the wives of the deceased veterans with certain restrictions, and

Whereas Arlington National Cemetery has become a shrine in the hearts and minds of American citizens, and

Whereas we are informed that approximately 6,000 gravesites remain in the Arlington National Cemetery, and

Whereas it is now the intention of the Department of the Army to restrict burial in Arlington National Cemetery to the Presidents, heroes, unknown soldiers, and other dignitaries, and

Whereas the question arises as to who will be designated as dignitaries and who would make the decision as to who could be determined to be eligible for burial in Arlington National Cemetery, and

Whereas no specific mention is made whether or not these dignitaries will have to be veterans or military men, and

Whereas this would definitely destroy the very purpose for which the Arlington National Cemetery was set up and deny the rights of any veterans or his spouse in certain instances to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery should they desire to be interred in Arlington National Cemetery: Now, therefore, be it