

GREATER CINCINNATI WOMEN'S POST 644
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, FOURTH DISTRICT
THE AMERICAN LEGION

RESOLUTION 10-1

SUBMITTED BY: Lynn Ashley, PhD

SUBJECT: The repeal of the assignment policy of the Department of Defense as it relates to female military personnel serving in combat situations during wartime in order to reflect the actual performance of female military personnel in direct combat in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, We, members of Greater Cincinnati Women's Post No. 644, are concerned about the status of women serving in the Armed Forces totaling 225,349 in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom with 29,538 currently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Women are usually attached to support units but are often not excluded from front-line duties and are increasingly attached to combat units resulting in almost 200 deaths and over 2,000 wounded; and

WHEREAS, There appears to be diversity between interpretation and application within the Department of Defense as to the assignment of female military personnel in combat situations; and

WHEREAS, Women have historically been an integral part of the U.S. armed forces; and

WHEREAS, It has been stated by members of the military that these current conflicts could not be fought without the inclusion of women; and

WHEREAS, Women find it difficult to advance in rank without combat experience, resulting in women being underrepresented in the senior ranks of the military; and

WHEREAS, Women who are not designated as "combat veterans" have difficulty proving they are suffering from Post-traumatic Stress Disorder in order to apply for benefits and are often excluded from treatment programs that serve only "combat veterans;" now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by Post No. 644, The American Legion, Department of Ohio in regular meeting assembled in Cincinnati, OH on February 18, 2010, That The American Legion shall initiate efforts to encourage the repeal of the Department of Defense's policy governing the assignment of women in combat situations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Oho for consideration at the Department Convention in Toledo, Ohio, June 25-27, 2010.

Date Passed:

Signatures:

February 18, 2010

Kelly K. Knox, Commander, Post 644

March 3, 2010

Charles Sollberger, Commander, Hamilton County

March 21, 2010

John Rolke, Commander, Fourth District