

Resolution to Create VFW National Submarine Liaison Office

Whereas the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) is “a national association of veterans who as soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen served this Nation in wars, campaigns, and expeditions on foreign soil or in hostile waters,” and is committed to “Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.” and

Whereas the mission of the VFW is “To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities.” And especially “To advocate on behalf of all veterans.”

Whereas the VFW’s membership is primarily comprised of Army, Marine, Air Force, and Navy combat veterans, there is less than 2% of that membership who have served in the US Navy’s Submarine Force and have unique needs, and

Whereas these unique needs of Navy Submariners are often overlooked or ignored by VFW leadership, yet, these needs are critically important to those who have served on submarines

Whereas these VFW members and veterans will benefit greatly from the strength and corporate voice of the VFW in Congress, the Navy’s command structure at all levels, and the Veterans Administration, and

Whereas in keeping with the mission and vision of the VFW, the VFW must be able to communicate adequately and appropriately with the Submarine Force appropriately to the Submarine Force and its active duty and veteran members.

Whereas the VFW and its leadership must be educated in the above-stated uniqueness, and in turn, The Submarine veterans must be made aware of the services, advocacy, and support provided by the VFW to all veterans.

Whereas the Navy’s command would benefit from a partnership with the VFW on behalf of their crews, both enlisted and officer.

Whereas, only a Submariner can fully understand and communicate the complexities, responsibilities, duties, and assignments of the US Submarine Force, i.e., the Silent Service,

Whereas a liaison is “a person who establishes and maintains communication for mutual understanding and cooperation,” (Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary)

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, the members of VFW Post 257 request that the VFW National Headquarters establish an office of the National VFW Liaison to the Submarine community to be manned by two VFW Submariners holding the offices of VFW National Liaison to the Submarine Community – East and West Coast. This office will contribute to greater understanding, enhance new member recruitment initiatives within the submarine community, target legislative actions to recognize the unique needs of our submarine veterans and contribute to better care for submarine veterans by the Veterans’ Administration.

Post 10154 approved this resolution on May 13, 2023

Post 12138 approved this resolution on May 27, 2023.