

RESOLUTION
AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA

RESOLUTION NO. Special20-01

SUBJECT: Cancellation of 2020 Department of Montana American Legion Convention in Billings, Montana

SUBMITTED BY: Past Department Commanders Advisory Committee

WHEREAS, The United States of America and the world in general are currently experiencing a pandemic associated with the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) therefore causing communities, cities, states and the federal government to enact unprecedented emergency actions in order to contain and combat the impact and risks of spreading the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Upon the recommendations of the United States President, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) the emergency actions taken include, but are not limited to, restriction of mass gathering sized, restriction on unnecessary travel, closure of restaurants and other public gathering spaces, implementation of “social distancing” guidelines and an overall emphasis on personal hygiene and virus/germ abatement actions; and

WHEREAS, The governor of the Montana declared in Executive Order #3-2020 a public health emergency and issued Executive Directives 3.15.20, 3.20.20, 3.24.20, and 3.26.20 requiring social distancing, groups of no more than 10 people, closure of indoor restaurant facilities, and stay at home whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, A gathering of the members of The American Legion Department of Montana at the Department Convention in Billings, Montana would be in conflict with the imposed restrictions set by state authorities and therefore place our members at an unnecessary health, safety, and medical risk; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion National has submitted and expected to pass a resolution to cancel the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky due to the current threat of COVID-19 to The United States of America; and

WHEREAS, The Past Department Commanders Advisory Committee to the Department Commander has thoroughly discussed the situation, weighed all options, and determined that the course of action herein recommended is the correct and prudent course for the American Legion Department of Montana at this time; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Department of Montana Andrew Pearson Post 117 of Billings, Montana understands and agrees with this course of action; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, By the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion Department of Montana, by electronic mail vote, That due to the uncertainty of the duration of the disease known as Coronavirus (COVID-19), the numerous government regulations being enforced to contain it and concern for the safety of all members of the American Legion Family, the American Legion Department of Montana Executive Committee agrees that present circumstances constitute sufficient reasons to cancel the 2020 American Legion Department of Montana Convention; and be it further

RESOLVED, That due to these serious and sufficient reasons, the following American Legion events in Billings, Montana, are cancelled: (1) the Pre-Convention Department Executive Committee meeting scheduled for June 25; (2) The American Legion Department of Montana Convention scheduled for June 26-28, 2020; (3) the Post-Convention Department Executive Committee meeting scheduled for June 28, 2020; and (4) all regular-scheduled Department Committee meetings that would have been held in Billings; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That all Departmental elected and appointed officers continue serving in their current positions until the close of the next Department Convention scheduled in Helena, Montana, June 27-29, 2021; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That all national commission and/or committee members continue serving in their current positions until they resign or are either reassigned or reappointed at the 2021 Fall Meetings schedule in Indianapolis, Indiana October 12-15, 2021; and be it further

RESOLVED, That any resolution needing to come before the American Legion Department of Montana Executive Committee may be brought forth to the Department Executive Committee and subsequently considered and voted on by video meetings, electronic mail or any other allowed means prior to the 2020 Fall meetings in Helena, Montana; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That due to numerous health and safety reasons and needs of our members, the American Legion Department Executive Committee strongly urges that the Detachment of Montana Sons of The American Legion, the Department of Montana American Legion Auxiliary follow a similar course of action, to-wit: (1) cancel their 2020

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conventions and elections; and (2) maintain the status quo of their officers until next year; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That due to the community of Billings, Montana, accommodating the American Legion cancellation decision in such a prompt manner without penalty or other financial cost to Andrew Pearson Post 117, the American Legion Department of Montana Executive Committee is hereby awarding the 2023 Department Convention to Andrew Person Post 117 if they so desire.

Elmer Palmer- Signed

Jim Grosset - Signed

Resolution Chairman

Constitution and Internal Affairs Chairman

Other authorized source:

(To be used when resolution is submitted from another authorized source)

BELOW THIS LINE FOR DEPARTMENT CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Approved ___ Approved with Amendment ___ Rejected ___ Received and Recorded ___ Consolidated with ___
Referred to Standing Commission or Committee on _____ Other Action _____
Signature of Chairman or Secretary _____