

**NINETY-FOURTH NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
August 28, 29, 30, 2012**

Resolution No. 46: Man in the Sea Memorial Monument

Origin: Texas

**Submitted by: Convention Committee on Internal Affairs and Other Internal Matters (Section II)
(As amended)**

WHEREAS, The acts of Navy, Army, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard divers have served the United States through a long history of actions including: Beach and harbor clearances and recoveries in all United States wars since WWI; Crucial salvage of Naval assets following the attacks at Pearl Harbor in WWII, Clearance of underwater munitions at ports and harbors in WWII; Clandestine infiltration missions in the European and Pacific Theaters of WWII; Maintenance and repair of vessels and aircraft recovery during the Vietnam War; Significant contributions to the winning of the Cold War by diving on Soviet communications cables at extreme depths; Recoveries of Space Shuttles *Challenger* and *Columbia*; A range of humanitarian relief efforts to clear international ports and harbors after natural disasters; Conducting hundreds of missions to maintain the dams, locks and waterways of the United States; Maintaining a security posture throughout the homeland during ports, waterways, and coastal security inspections following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001; Support for a range of missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and A host of lesser known acts protecting U.S. interests at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, The awareness of current of future generations of the contributions of military divers to the security of the United States is threatened by a lack of a national focus on the service of the men and women who have served beneath the sea; and

WHEREAS, A national memorial to military diving would be best located in our nation's Capital, at the site of the historic Navy Dive School on the grounds of the Washington Navy Yard, along the edge of the Anacostia River, where the services' divers can draw a common history and where public visibility of the memorial to military diving would receive appropriate visitation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, August 28, 29, 30, 2012, That The American Legion urges the President of the United States and the U.S. Congress to designate the site of the former Navy Dive School at the Washington Navy Yard as the location of a memorial to military diving; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion endorses the proposal that such a memorial be named the "Man in the Sea Memorial Monument"; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion endorses, without any financial obligation to the National Organization, The Homeland Security Policy Institute Group's calls for private contributions to support the final design and construction of the Man in the Sea Memorial Monument; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Legion calls for the final design be conducted in consultation with the current diving commands in the Navy, Army, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard to ensure that the history of all services be captured in the design of the monument and the messaging at the memorial site; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion supports this resolution and urges our members of Congress to pass legislation to support this memorial.