

2020 Veterans For Peace Convention Resolution Protocols

Resolutions must be submitted via email to the Chairperson of the Resolutions Committee by the resolution submission deadline, 30 days prior to the annual pre-Convention Board of Directors meeting. If this (sending by email) is not possible they should be typewritten on 8.5 x 11 inch paper and mailed to the Resolution Committee Chair. Resolutions must be in their final form by the resolution deadline, meaning that will not be a further editing period after the submission deadline. The deadline for submitting resolutions in 2020 is 11:59pm, Eastern Daylight Time, July 5, 2020.

For 2020 proposed resolutions can be emailed to the Resolutions Committee Chair, Joshua Shurley, at joshuashurley@gmail.com or mailed to 4912 North 7th Street, Apt 117, Fresno, CA 93726. Emailing resolutions is the preferred way of submitting resolutions. Resolutions submitted by mail must include a telephone number of the resolution maker.

1. Each resolution should **include a short title** and cover only one topic. If a person wants to address more than one topic they must submit multiple resolutions.
2. Before submitting a resolution, a person must check the listing of resolutions already approved by the Veterans For Peace membership at past national Conventions to make sure the resolution being submitted does not duplicate resolutions already in effect. Resolutions already approved by the Veterans For Peace membership can be found at https://www.veteransforpeace.org/download_file/view/2803. Quite often, proposed resolutions have already been approved at an earlier time.
3. Resolutions should be brief and concise. Long, rambling “Whereas” statements, in most cases, are counterproductive. A resolution that is short and to the point will get more attention as many people will only look at the “what you want” language (the “Therefore Be It Resolved” statement) anyway. It is recommended that resolutions be no more than 200 words. Resolutions over 300 words will not be accepted.
4. It is highly recommended, but not required, that resolutions be voted on, and approved, through a members’ Veterans For Peace Chapter. Having a resolution debated and approved by a local Chapter often strengthens the language and intent of the resolution. Also, a resolution approved by a Chapter can help give added credibility when voted on by the membership at the national Convention.
5. Every resolution must carry the identification of the person submitting it, as well as an email address and telephone number. Anonymous resolutions will not be accepted, nor will resolutions by a person whose membership status is not current (fully paid up) with the national office. If a Chapter wants to submit a resolution, it must be submitted by a Chapter officer.
6. Resolutions calling for the national Veterans For Peace office to fund a project will be rejected by the Resolutions Committee simply due to a lack of funds by the organization. If a resolution proposes a project requiring funding, such funding should be done through the maker of the resolution.
7. Resolutions calling for work by the national Veterans For Peace office staff, Board members or Officers, will be rejected by the Resolutions Committee simply due to a lack of staff, Board or Officer time and expense. If a resolution proposes a person’s time, or requires funding, such time, funds and effort must be made through the efforts of the maker(s) of the resolution.
8. Resolutions with a statement that Chapters “must” or “will” perform certain duties or make donations will be rejected by the Resolutions Committee, as Chapters cannot be mandated to do certain tasks. A much better way of wording a resolution would be that “Chapters are urged to....”.
9. Resolutions received by the Resolution Committee prior to the resolution deadline date (30 days prior to the start of the pre-Convention Board of Directors meeting) will be either...
 - a) Accepted as written and promptly acknowledged.
 - b) Returned to sender with suggestions for rewriting.
 - c) Returned to sender with an explanation of why they are inappropriate.

10. With one exception, no resolutions will be accepted by the Resolution Committee after the deadline (thirty days prior to the Convention business meeting – July 5, 2020. If, and only if, events occur after this deadline, of sufficient impact to require a resolution, no fewer than fifty (50) copies of the appropriate resolution(s), on 8.5 x 11 inch paper, should be submitted tot the VFP Executive Administrator or VFP President before the convening of the plenary session at the Convention membership meeting at which resolutions are to be considered.

11. All resolutions received by the deadline will be assigned numbers and forwarded to the Veterans For Peace Board of Directors for discussion prior to the opening of the Convention. The Resolution Committee will also provide the Board with its rationale for rejecting any of the resolutions which have been submitted. Along these lines, while the Committee may reject a resolution only for violating these resolution protocols (and not for content), a final decision on whether the resolution will go to the membership will be made by the Board at its pre-Convention meeting.

12. Resolutions must be in resolution format (i.e. Whereas..., Therefore Be It Resolved). Documents submitted that are not in a resolution format (i.e. "I think VFP should do something about...") are not viewed as resolutions by the Resolutions Committee and will not be accepted.

13. Resolutions that wish to list co-sponsors must limit their number to ten. If the resolution authors wish to list more than ten, a web page link listing the co-sponsors must be provided. This can be accomplished by the makers of the resolution building a free and simple web page on their own and listing the co-sponsors there, then attaching the web link to the resolution.

14. The Resolutions Committee will not write resolutions for individuals, groups or Chapters.

15. The Veterans For Peace Board of Directors reserves the right to submit to the business meeting resolutions deemed necessary to cover issues and concerns not addressed by resolutions from chapters and members.

16. The Veterans For Peace Board of Directors may ask resolutions authors to make changes to their resolutions' language to address issues or concerns identified by the board.

17. Once resolutions have been reviewed by the Veterans For Peace Board of Directors and brought before the business meeting, there will be no amendments or changes to resolutions. They will be voted on as is.

18. Resolutions will be accepted starting May 5, 2020. The deadline for submitting resolutions for 2020 is 11:5pm, Eastern Daylight Time, July 5, 2020.