

**CHAPTER 2003—SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

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**§ 200301. Organization**

(a) FEDERAL CHARTER.—Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (in this chapter, the “corporation”) is a federally chartered corporation.

(b) PLACE OF INCORPORATION AND DOMICILE.—The corporation is declared to be incorporated and domiciled in the District of Columbia.

(c) PERPETUAL EXISTENCE.—Except as otherwise provided, the corporation has perpetual existence.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1452.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
200301 .....	36:531. 36:532. 36:534(1).	Aug. 20, 1954, ch. 774, §§1, 2, 4(1), 68 Stat. 748, 749.

This section is substituted for the source provisions for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary and executed words.

**§ 200302. Purposes**

The purposes of the corporation are—

(1) to perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union in 1861 to 1865;

(2) to assist in every practicable way in preserving, and making available for research, documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members;

(3) to cooperate in honoring all those who have served our country patriotically in any war;

(4) to teach patriotism, the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country, and the love and honor of our flag;

(5) to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, destroy, or impair our constitutional Union; and

(6) to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, equal rights, and impartial justice for all.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1452.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
200302 .....	36:533.	Aug. 20, 1954, ch. 774, §3, 68 Stat. 749.

In clause (5), the words “destroy, or impair” are substituted for “or make for the destruction or impairment of” to eliminate unnecessary words.

**§ 200303. Membership**

(a) GENERAL.—Except as provided in this chapter, eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights, privileges, and designation of classes of members are as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

(b) REQUIRED SERVICE.—Eligibility for membership in the corporation is limited to male blood relatives of an individual who—

(1) served at any time during the period from April 12, 1861, through April 9, 1865, as a soldier or sailor in—

(A) the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Revenue-Cutter Service; or

(B) a State regiment that was called into active service and was subject to orders of United States general officers during that period; and

(2) was discharged honorably from, or died in, that service.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1453.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
200303 .....	36:535.	Aug. 20, 1954, ch. 774, §5, 68 Stat. 750.

In subsection (a), the words “are as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation” are substituted for “shall . . . be determined as the constitution and bylaws of the corporation may provide” for consistency in the revised title.

In subsection (b)(1), the words “at any time” are added for clarity.

**§ 200304. Governing body**

(a) NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.—(1) The national encampment is the supreme governing authority of the corporation.

(2) The national encampment is composed of officers and elected representatives from the States and other local subdivisions of the corporation as provided in the constitution and bylaws. However, the form of government of the corporation must be representative of the membership at large and may not permit concentration of control in a limited number of members or in a self-perpetuating group not representative of the membership at large.

(3) The meetings of the national encampment may be held in the District of Columbia or in any State, territory, or possession of the United States.

(b) COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.—(1) During the intervals between the national encampments, the council of administration is the governing board of the corporation and is responsible for the general policies, program, and activities of the corporation.

(2) The council of administration shall consist of at least seven members elected in the manner and for the term provided in the constitution and bylaws.

(c) OFFICERS.—(1) The officers of the corporation are a commander in chief, a senior vice