

(1) adopt a constitution, bylaws, and regulations to carry out the purposes of the corporation;

(2) adopt and alter a corporate seal;

(3) establish and maintain offices to conduct its activities;

(4) establish State and territorial organizations and local chapter or post organizations;

(5) provide guidance and leadership to organizations and local chapters established under paragraph (4), but may not control or otherwise influence the specific activities and conduct of such organizations and local chapters;

(6) acquire, own, lease, encumber, and transfer property as necessary to carry out the purposes of the corporation;

(7) publish a magazine and other publications;

(8) sue and be sued; and

(9) do any other act necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the corporation.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1297; Pub. L. 112-66, §1, Dec. 13, 2011, 125 Stat. 768.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
21704	36:44 (words before 4th semicolon less perpetual succession, words after 5th semicolon). 36:47.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §4 (words before 4th semicolon less perpetual succession, words after 5th semicolon), 41 Stat. 285; June 26, 1953, ch. 153, §1, 67 Stat. 82. Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §7, 41 Stat. 285.

In this section, the text of 36:47 is omitted as executed and obsolete.

In clause (1), the words “not inconsistent with the laws of the United States or of any State” are omitted as unnecessary.

In clause (2), the words “at pleasure” are omitted as unnecessary.

In clause (3), the word “activities” is substituted for “business” for consistency in the revised title.

Clause (5) is substituted for “to receive, hold, own, use, and dispose of such real estate and personal property as shall be necessary for its corporate purposes” for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In clause (7), the words “in courts of law and equity” are omitted as unnecessary.

In clause (8), the words “do any other act” are substituted for “generally to do any and all such acts and things” for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words.

AMENDMENTS

2011—Pars. (5) to (9). Pub. L. 112-66 added par. (5) and redesignated former pars. (5) to (8) as (6) to (9), respectively.

§ 21705. Exclusive right to name, emblems, and badges

The corporation and its State and local subdivisions have the exclusive right to use the name “The American Legion” or “American Legion”. The corporation has the exclusive right to use, manufacture, and control the right to manufacture, emblems and badges the corporation adopts.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1298.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
21705	36:44 (words between 4th and 5th semicolons). 36:48.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §§4 (words between 4th and 5th semicolons), 8, 41 Stat. 285; June 26, 1953, ch. 153, 67 Stat. 82.

The word “sole” is omitted as included in “exclusive”. The words “to have and”, “in carrying out its purposes”, and “in carrying out the purposes of the corporation” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 21706. Political activities

The corporation shall be nonpolitical and may not promote the candidacy of an individual seeking public office.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1298.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
21706	36:46.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §6, 41 Stat. 285.

The words “as an organization” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 21707. Service of process

As a condition to the exercise of any power or privilege granted by this chapter, the corporation shall file, with the secretary of state or other designated official of each State, the name and address of an agent in that State on whom legal process or demands against the corporation may be served.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1298.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
21707	36:50.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §9 1/2, 41 Stat. 285.

The word “precedent” is omitted as unnecessary. The words “with the secretary of state or other designated official” are substituted for “in the office of the secretary of state” for consistency in the revised title. The words “post-office” and “authorized” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 21708. Annual report

Not later than January 1 of each year, the corporation shall submit a report to Congress on the activities of the corporation during the prior calendar year. The report may not be printed as a public document.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1298.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
21708	36:49.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §9, 41 Stat. 285; Aug. 30, 1964, Pub. L. 88-504, §4(3), 78 Stat. 636.

TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective May 15, 2000, of reporting provisions in this section, see section 3003 of Pub. L.