

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

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1306; Pub. L. 107–241, §1(a)(1), Oct. 16, 2002, 116 Stat. 1496.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
22701 .....	36:67.  36:67a.  36:67c (related to perpetual succession). 36:67i(1).	July 23, 1947, ch. 298, §1, 61 Stat. 403; Aug. 15, 1977, Pub. L. 95–98, §1(a), 91 Stat. 830. July 23, 1947, ch. 298, §§2, 4 (related to perpetual succession), 10(1), 61 Stat. 405, 406, 407.

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

This text of 36:67a is omitted as executed and obsolete.

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107–241 substituted “AMVETS (American Veterans)” for “AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam)”.

§ 22702. Purposes

The purposes of the corporation are—

(1) to preserve for ourselves and our posterity the great and basic truths and enduring principles upon which this Nation was founded;

(2) to maintain a continuing interest in the welfare and rehabilitation of the disabled veterans of World War II, the Korean conflict, and the Vietnam era and to establish facilities for the assistance of all veterans and to represent them in their claims before the Department of Veterans Affairs and other organizations without charge;

(3) to dedicate ourselves to the service and best interests of the community, State, and Nation to the end that our country shall be and remain forever a whole, strong, and free Nation;

(4) to aid and encourage the abolition of prejudice, ignorance, and disease;

(5) to encourage universal exercise of the voting franchise to the end that there shall be elected and maintained in public office men and women who hold public office as a public trust administered in the best interests of all the people;

(6) to advocate the development and means by which all Americans may become enlightened and informed citizens and thus participate fully in the functions of our democracy;

(7) to encourage and support an international organization of all peace-loving nations to the end that not again shall any nation be permitted to breach their national peace;

(8) to continue to serve the best interests of our Nation in peace as in war;

(9) to develop to the utmost the human, mental, spiritual, and economical resources of our Nation;

(10) to perpetuate and preserve the friendships and comradeship born on the battle front and nurtured in the common experience of service to our Nation during time of war; and

(11) to honor the memory of those men and women who gave their lives that a free America and a free world might live by the creation of living memorials in the form of additional educational, cultural, and recreational facilities.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1306.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
22702 .....	36:67b(1), (3)–(10).  36:67b(2).	July 23, 1947, ch. 298, §3(1), (3)–(10), 61 Stat. 405. July 23, 1947, ch. 298, §3(2), 61 Stat. 405; Aug. 15, 1977, Pub. L. 95–98, §1(b)(1), 91 Stat. 830; June 13, 1991, Pub. L. 102–54, §13(n)(1), 105 Stat. 278.

§ 22703. Membership

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Except as provided in this chapter, eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights and privileges of members are as provided in the constitution and by-laws of the corporation.

(b) VOTING.—Each member has one vote in the conduct of official business at the post level.

(c) NONDISCRIMINATION.—The terms of membership may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1307.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
22703(a) .....	36:67e (words before 3d comma).	July 23, 1947, ch. 298, §6 (words before 3d comma, words after 3d comma related to discrimination in membership), 61 Stat. 407; Dec. 28, 1950, ch. 1178, 64 Stat. 1122; July 26, 1955, ch. 383, 69 Stat. 375; Sept. 14, 1966, Pub. L. 89–576, 80 Stat. 772; Aug. 15, 1977, Pub. L. 95–98, §1(b)(2), 91 Stat. 830; May 31, 1984, Pub. L. 98–304, 98 Stat. 220.
22703(b) .....	36:67f(1) (1st sentence).	July 23, 1947, ch. 298, §7(1) (1st sentence), 61 Stat. 407.
22703(c) .....	36:67e (words after 3d comma related to discrimination in membership).	

In subsection (b), the words “the right to” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 22704. Governing body

(a) DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS.—Each post may elect delegates to national conventions of the corporation. The delegates each have one vote in the conduct of business of the convention to which they are elected.

(b) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—The executive committee of the corporation consists of—

(1) one member elected to represent each department; and

(2) the officers of the corporation as ex officio members.

(c) OFFICERS.—(1) The officers of the corporation are a national commander, two national