

In clause (1), the words “preserving and promoting” are added for clarity.

§ 220704. Membership

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 bylaws of the corporation.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1479.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220704	36:1805.	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, § 5, 95 Stat. 1094.

§ 220705. Governing body

(a) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The board of directors and the responsibilities of the board are as provided in the articles of incorporation.

(b) OFFICERS.—The officers and the election of officers are as provided in the articles of incorporation.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1479.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220705(a)	36:1806.	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, §§ 6, 7, 95 Stat. 1095.
220705(b)	36:1807.	

The words “and in conformity with the laws of the State or States in which it is incorporated” in 36:1806 and “and in conformity with the laws of the State or States wherein it is incorporated” in 36:1807 are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 220706. Powers

The corporation has only the powers provided in its bylaws and articles of incorporation filed in each State in which it is incorporated.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1479.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220706	36:1802.	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, § 2, 95 Stat. 1094.

The words “and subject to the laws of such State or States” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 220707. Restrictions

(a) STOCK AND DIVIDENDS.—The corporation may not issue stock or declare or pay a dividend.

(b) POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.—The corporation or a director or officer as such may not contribute to, support, or otherwise participate in any political activity or in any manner attempt to influence legislation.

(c) DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME OR ASSETS.—The income or assets of the corporation may not inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, a director, officer, or member during the life of the charter granted by this chapter. This subsection does not prevent the payment of reasonable

compensation to an officer or reimbursement for actual necessary expenses in amounts approved by the board of directors.

(d) LOANS.—The corporation may not make a loan to a director, officer, or employee.

(e) CLAIM OF GOVERNMENTAL APPROVAL OR AUTHORITY.—The corporation may not claim congressional approval or the authority of the United States Government for any of its activities.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1480.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220707(a)	36:1808(d).	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, § 8, 95 Stat. 1095.
220707(b)	36:1808(c).	
220707(c)	36:1808(a).	
220707(d)	36:1808(b).	
220707(e)	36:1808(e).	

In subsection (a), the words “any shares of” are omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (b), the words “as such” are substituted for “acting as such officer or director” for consistency in the revised title.

In subsection (c), the words “may not” are substituted for “No part of . . . shall” for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “inure to the benefit of” are substituted for “inure to” for consistency in the revised title. The words “This subsection does not” are substituted for “Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to” for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words.

§ 220708. Duty to maintain tax-exempt status

The corporation shall maintain its status as an organization exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 1 et seq.).

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1480.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220708	36:1814 (1st sentence).	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, § 15 (1st sentence), 95 Stat. 1096.

§ 220709. Records and inspection

(a) RECORDS.—The corporation shall keep—

- (1) correct and complete records of account;
- (2) minutes of the proceedings of its members, board of directors, and committees having any of the authority of its board of directors; and

(3) at its principal office, a record of the names and addresses of its members entitled to vote.

(b) INSPECTION.—A member entitled to vote, or an agent or attorney of the member, may inspect the records of the corporation for any proper purpose, at any reasonable time.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1480.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220709	36:1810.	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, § 10, 95 Stat. 1095.

The word “records” is substituted for “books and records” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. The words “Nothing in this section shall be construed to contravene any applicable State law” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 220710. Service of process

The corporation shall comply with the law on service of process of each State in which it is incorporated and each State in which it carries on activities.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1480.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220710	36:1804.	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, § 4, 95 Stat. 1094.

The words “in furtherance of its corporate purposes” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 220711. Liability for acts of officers and agents

The corporation is liable for the acts of its officers and agents acting within the scope of their authority.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1480.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220711	36:1809.	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, § 9, 95 Stat. 1095.

§ 220712. Annual report

The corporation shall submit an annual report to Congress on the activities of the corporation during the prior fiscal year. The report shall be submitted at the same time as the report of the audit required by section 10101 of this title. The report may not be printed as a public document.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1480.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
220712	36:1811.	Nov. 20, 1981, Pub. L. 97–83, § 12, 95 Stat. 1096.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective May 15, 2000, of reporting provisions in this section, see section 3003 of Pub. L. 104–66, set out as a note under section 1113 of Title 31, Money and Finance, and page 207 of House Document No. 103–7.

CHAPTERS 2209 THROUGH 2299—RESERVED

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113–237, § 3(b)(19), Dec. 18, 2014, 128 Stat. 2839, added placeholder for chapters 2209 to 2299.

CHAPTER 2301—VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

Sec.
230101. Organization.

Sec.
230102. Purposes.
230103. Membership.
230104. Powers.
230105. Exclusive right to name, seal, emblems, and badges.
230106. Service of process.
230107. Annual report.

§ 230101. Organization

(a) FEDERAL CHARTER.—Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (in this chapter, the “corporation”), a national association of veterans who as soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen served this Nation in wars, campaigns, and expeditions on foreign soil or in hostile waters, is a federally chartered corporation.

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

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1481; Pub. L. 113–199, § 1(a), Dec. 4, 2014, 128 Stat. 2058.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
230101(a)	36:111. 36:112.	May 28, 1936, ch. 471, § 1, 49 Stat. 1390; May 29, 1953, ch. 85, § 1, 67 Stat. 40. May 28, 1936, ch. 471, §§ 2, 4 (words before 4th semicolon related to perpetual succession), 49 Stat. 1390, 1391.
230101(b)	36:114 (words before 4th semicolon related to perpetual succession).	

Subsection (a) is substituted for the source provisions for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary and executed words.

In subsection (b), the words “perpetual existence” are substituted for “perpetual succession” for consistency in the revised title.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113–199 substituted “veterans” for “men”.

§ 230102. Purposes

The purposes of the corporation are fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational, and are—

- (1) to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members;
- (2) to assist worthy comrades;
- (3) to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans;
- (4) to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws;
- (5) to foster true patriotism;
- (6) to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and
- (7) to preserve and defend the United States from all enemies.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1481; Pub. L. 107–242, § 2, Oct. 16, 2002, 116 Stat. 1497; Pub. L. 113–199, § 1(b), Dec. 4, 2014, 128 Stat. 2058.)