

United States of America, fidelity to the constitution and laws of the United States, the security of civil liberty, and the permanence of free institutions.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the corporation are—

(1) to cherish the memories of the valiant deeds in arms for which the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, and the Air Force Cross are the insignia;

(2) to promote true fellowship among its members;

(3) to advance the best interests of members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America;

(4) to extend all possible relief to needy members of the corporation and their widows and children; and

(5) to stimulate patriotism in the minds of our youth by encouraging the study of the patriotic, military, and naval history of our Nation.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1374.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
130302 .....	36:633.	Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, §3, 69 Stat. 487; June 21, 1961, Pub. L. 87-56, §2, 75 Stat. 95.

In subsection (b), the word “purposes” is substituted for “objects” for consistency in the revised title. The words “Navy Cross” are restated before “Air Force Cross” in accordance with the order preferred by the Legion of Valor of the United States of America, Incorporated.

§ 130303. Membership

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—An individual is eligible for active membership in the corporation if the individual—

(1) is of good moral character; and

(2) has received a Congressional Medal of Honor, a Distinguished Service Cross, a Navy Cross, or an Air Force Cross awarded for acts of extraordinary heroism in connection with military or naval operations against an armed enemy, or for heroism of a specially distinguished character, as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States or any foreign country.

(b) EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY TO PARENTS AND DESCENDANTS.—The corporation may extend eligibility for membership, either active or associate, to parents and lineal descendants of an individual described in subsection (a) of this section on terms provided in its constitution and bylaws.

(c) VOTING.—Each member (except an associate member) has one vote on each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1374.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
130303 .....	36:636.	Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, §6, 69 Stat. 488; June 21, 1961, Pub. L. 87-56, §2, 75 Stat. 95.

In subsection (a)(2), the words “has received” are substituted for “who have received or who may hereafter receive” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “Navy Cross” are restated before “Air Force Cross” in accordance with the order preferred by the Legion of Valor of the United States of America, Incorporated. The words “as a member” are substituted for “are, have been, or may become members . . . of whatever rank” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (b), the words “on terms” are substituted for “under such conditions and upon such terms” to eliminate unnecessary words.

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

The text of 36:636(d) is omitted as obsolete.

§ 130304. Governing body

(a) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—(1) The board of directors is the governing body of the corporation. Between meetings of the corporation, the board is responsible for the general policies and program of the corporation. The board is responsible for all funds of the corporation.

(2) The number of directors, their manner of selection (including the filling of vacancies), and their term of office are as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation. However, the board shall have at least 10 directors.

(b) OFFICERS.—(1) The officers of the corporation are a commander, a senior vice commander, a junior vice commander, a chaplain, an adjutant and quartermaster, a judge advocate, an inspector, a surgeon, a historian, and any aides-de-camp provided in the constitution and bylaws.

(2) The manner of election, term of office, and duties of the officers are as provided in the constitution and bylaws.

(Pub. L. 105-225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1375.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
130304(a) .....	36:637.	Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 546, §§7, 8, 69 Stat. 488.
130304(b) .....	36:638.	

In subsection (a), the text of 36:637(a) and the word “Thereafter” in 36:637(b) are omitted as executed and obsolete. In paragraph (1), the word “funds” is substituted for “finances” for consistency in the revised title.

§ 130305. Powers

The corporation may—

(1) adopt and amend a constitution and bylaws for the management of its property and the regulation of its affairs;

(2) adopt and alter a corporate seal;

(3) make contracts;

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

(5) borrow money, issue instruments of indebtedness, and secure its obligations by granting security interests in its property;