

Resolution 03
Rehabilitation Committee

Return of Prosthetic devices to the Department of Veterans Affairs – a cost saving measure.

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs(VA) is responsible to issue and fit prosthetic devices and appliances to veterans who need them in accordance with 38 USC 1719 and 38 CFR 17.150, **and**

Whereas, some of the appliances include walkers, wheelchairs (both manual and electric), scooters, **and**

Whereas, the cost to purchase said appliances are very high and take a good portion of the VA Healthcare budget, **and**

Whereas, budget constraints are becoming more and more the overriding factor in the delivery of care to veterans, **and**

Whereas, when the veteran who was issued said appliance(s) decease and/or no longer needs said appliance. The family is left to get rid of the appliance through donation or sale, **and**

Whereas, the return/repair and reissue of said appliances could save an undetermined amount of money, **and**

Whereas, the 38 USC 1719 and 38 CFR 17.150 are completely void of any instructions for the return/repair and reissue of any said appliances, **now therefore**

Be it Resolved, a paragraph be added to both the 38 USC 1719 and the 38 CFR 17.150 to allow the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to authorize the return/repair and reissue of appliances such as walkers, wheelchairs(both manual and electric), and scooters to other veterans in need, **and**

Be it further Resolved, the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs determine a specific budget line item in the annual budget for the repair and reissue of said appliances, **and**

Be it further Resolved, that if approved by the Department of New York at its annual convention in Syracuse, New York on July 20-22, 2017, that this resolution be forwarded to the National Organization for consideration at the National Convention in Reno, Nevada scheduled for August 18-24, 2017.