

Section 4. There shall be established the following Commissions:

- a. **Commission on Finance**
- b. **Commission on Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation**
- c. **Commission on Americanism**
- d. **Commission on Public Information**
- e. **Commission on National Security and Governmental Affairs**
- f. **Commission on Internal Affairs**
- g. **Commission on Public Information**
- h. **Commission on Children and Youth**
- i. **Commission on Ways and Means**

These commissions shall be composed of eight (8) members whose terms of office shall be for a two (2) year period. Each commission shall be composed of one member of each of The American Legion Districts of THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION. The terms of four (4) members of the commission shall expire each year. Thereafter each Commissioner shall serve for a period of two (2) years unless removed for cause. Commissioners who are absent for a period of two (2) consecutive meetings of the commission of which they are a member shall automatically forfeit their appointment to said commission and shall be replaced by the Department Commander at the next meeting of the Department Executive Committee. Appointments to fill vacancies on the commissions shall be made for the unexpired term of the commissioner who is being replaced.

The Department Commander shall have the privilege of naming the Chairman of each of the commissions with the approval of the Department Executive Committee at the first Department Executive Committee meeting following the election of the Department Commander. All other appointees to each of the commissions shall be appointed at the second Department Executive Committee meeting following the Commander's election. However, the terms of the Chairmen of all commissions shall expire when they have made their reports to the Department Convention at which the next Department Commander is elected.

Section 5. Each of the Commissions shall be responsible for the supervision of the work and proper functioning of each of the several committees over which it has jurisdiction. To this end it shall formulate the programs and policies of the committees, disseminate information to the committee chairmen and generally direct the work of the committee chairmen. Department Headquarters shall maintain for each Commission a folio file for each of its committees defining the work of the committee, its duties, policies and operational procedures. These files shall be kept current with respect to all directives from the Department Executive Committee and Convention mandates.

Section 6. COMMISSION CHAIRMEN: It shall be the duty of the Chairmen of each Commission or Committee to make a final report of the activities of their commission or committee to the Department Convention at its Annual Meeting.

The Department Commander shall designate the time of such report and shall further have the privilege to call the Chairman of any Commission or Committee for a special report to the Department Executive Committee or at such other time as the Department Commander shall deem appropriate.

Section 7. THE COMMISSION ON FINANCE shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to the financial operation and proper conduct of the business affairs of THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION. The Commission shall in its functioning be bound by the Fiscal Code, and the Convention mandates. The following committee shall be associated with and responsible to the Commission on Finance:

The Investment Committee

The Investment Committee, which shall consist of not more than three (3) members. The Chairman shall be a member of the Commission on Finance.

Section 8. COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION shall be responsible for the proper conduct of all programs of the Legion which are associated with the programs assigned to the following committees:

a. VA Hospital Liaison Committee

The Hospital Committee shall be composed of eight (8) Legionnaires domiciled in those areas close to all veterans hospitals that are in operation in the State of Louisiana. These individuals shall be specifically responsible for the hospital to which they are assigned.

Section 9. THE COMMISSION ON AMERICANISM shall be responsible for all of the Americanism programs of THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, as well as those specific programs normally associated with the functioning of American Legion Baseball, Department of Louisiana, Inc., and the following committees:

a. Oratorical Contest Committee

This committee shall be composed of the eight (8) district oratorical committee chairmen. The Commander will appoint a chairman, who may or may not be a member of the committee or the commission. Funds shall be made available for at least one annual meeting of this committee in the fall of the year to plan its statewide program.

b. Community Service Committee

The Community Service Committee shall include such activities as flag education, patriotic observances, and the Back to God Movement.

c. Un-Americanism Activities Committee

d. Sons of the Legion Committee

e. Department Agriculture Chairman

f. Boy Scout Committee

Section 10. COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

(1) The funds for the conduct of the Joint Child Welfare Program of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary shall be derived from the sale of poppies. These poppies shall be obtained through Department Headquarters of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Louisiana.

(2) Poppy sales must be conducted by the American Legion Auxiliary. Both posts and units have a definite responsibility for the success of such sales. In the event that a bachelor post and/or unit does not conduct a poppy sale, such bachelor post or unit shall remit in accordance with their membership the following: membership 1 - 200 members, twenty-five dollars (\$25.00); 201 and over, forty dollars (\$40.00) to the American Legion Auxiliary in lieu of the poppy sale. When sales are conducted by the post and/or unit, one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the proceeds derived from such sale shall be remitted to the Department Secretary of the American Legion Auxiliary no later than fifteen (15) days after the sale has been completed.

a. **Chairman of the Education and Scholarship Program**

Section 11. THE COMMISSION ON PUBLIC INFORMATION shall be responsible for the proper conduct of all programs having to do with the public relations and publicity and it shall be responsible for the publication of the Louisiana Legionnaire.

This Commission shall have among its members at least one representative from the field of television, one from the field of radio, one from the daily press, and insofar as possible one from the field of public relations. The editor of the Louisiana Legionnaire shall be ex officio a member of this commission.

Section 12. THE COMMISSION ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS shall be responsible for the proper operation of all of the programs of the Legion which are associated with the functioning of the following committees:

a. The Committee on Legislation

This committee shall have made available to it sufficient funds to hold at least one meeting prior to the convening of the Louisiana Legislature. The Committee shall also be charged with pursuing the legislation sponsored by THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION.

b. Department Safety Education Liaison Chairman

c. Department Civil Defense Liaison Chairman

d. Department Veterans Preference and Employment Liaison Committee

Section 13. THE COMMISSION ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS will be responsible to the Commander and the Department Executive Committee. It shall periodically study the office proceedings, accounting systems, the general functioning and operation of various committees and commissions and of Department Headquarters. It shall report annually to the Department Executive Committee at the preconvention meeting the state of the internal affairs of THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION. It shall make recommendations for the Commander and to the Department Executive Committee for any changes, alterations, or improvements which, in its judgement would be for the good of The American Legion.

Section 14. THE COMMISSION ON DEPARTMENT CONVENTION shall be responsible for recommending to the Department Executive Committee the sites for the Department Conventions and Mid Winter Conferences. A post or posts wishing to host either the Department Convention or Mid Winter Conference shall submit in writing to the Commission on Department Convention evidence to the effect that the bid for holding the aforesaid meeting is made by a legally incorporated body acting in behalf of the post or posts concerned.

All bids for holding the Department Convention or the Mid Winter Conference must be submitted through the Department Adjutant to the Commission on Department Convention at least twenty-four (24) months in advance of the date for which the bid is submitted. (It is desirable that all such bids be submitted at least thirty-six (36) months in advance of the date on which the meeting is to be held.)

It shall be the duty of the Commission on Department Convention to formulate and prepare a contract to be signed by the Department Commander and the designated representative of the Corporate body submitting the bid.

The Commission on Department Convention shall be further responsible for the general conduct and operational procedures usually assigned to such an administrative body.

Section 15. THE COMMISSION ON WAYS AND MEANS shall be responsible to the Department Commander and the Department Executive Committee for the success of all programs that derive income for The American Legion. Committees such as Card Program and Insurance Program shall be under the jurisdiction of the Commission on Ways and Means. Chairmen of these Committees shall be chosen from the Commission on Ways and Means members.

Section 16. Each District Commander shall appoint a District Chairman for each committee established by the various commissions. These chairmen shall be responsible for maintaining liaison and the dissemination of information and the conduct of the programs of the Legion at the District level.

Section 17. Each Commission shall meet, together with their committee chairmen and/or liaison chairmen on the Saturday which immediately precedes the August Department Executive Committee meeting for the purpose of outlining and developing the program under their supervision and prepare in writing their budgetary requirement to be submitted to the Commission on Finance for their consideration and recommendation to the Department Executive Committee for necessary action.

Section 18. The Department Adjutant will construct a table of organization which outlines the relationships and authoritative responsibility of the several offices, commissions and committees of The American Legion.