

A Resolution

Condemning Mass Workforce Reductions and Benefit Cuts at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

- **Sponsored by Jerry Johnson, LD 38, Precious McKesson, LD13, Jane Kleeb, LD33**
- **Submitted: September 27th 2025**
- **Recommended for Approval**

Whereas, workforce reductions and other changes at the VA will negatively impact veterans and their families regardless of gender, ethnicity, politics and more,

Whereas, honorably-discharged veterans served to defend the United States of America, often at considerable personal cost, including service-related issues, family separations, and extended foreign deployments,

Whereas, veterans served with implicit and often explicit promises from the U.S. Government that they would receive certain benefits, including service-related healthcare, following their discharge from service in partial recompense for that service,

Whereas, veterans make up approximately one-quarter of all employees at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and bring invaluable experience, including technical expertise, training, security clearances, and commitment to their work as employees of any federal agency,

Whereas, on February 13, 2025, VA Secretary Doug Collins announced without warning the termination of 1,000 employees from the VA and an additional 1,400 VA employees on February 24, 2025,

Whereas, mass terminations of federal government employees are damaging the economic security and morale of veterans and their families, and are harming veterans' trust in the VA, thereby harming the VA's ability to recruit and retain employees in the most valuable and needed positions,

Whereas, veterans, their families, and employees of the VA have expressed concerns regarding the effects of the mass terminations, including

- (1) the suspension of service lines, beds, and operating rooms at VA hospitals and clinics,
- (2) the cancellation and postponement of preventative health screenings and other time-sensitive medical appointments and interventions
- (3) the reduction of support lines for caregivers, termination of Veterans Crisis Line employees, termination of employees performing critical research at the VA, and termination of cybersecurity personnel protecting websites of the VA and the personal data of veterans.

Therefore, Be It Resolved,

- (1) Those changes at the VA that negatively affect veterans and their families shall be condemned,
- (2) That neither the United States Government nor the Government of the State of Nebraska shall implement changes that will negatively impact the earned post-service benefits of honorably-discharged veterans, immediately or in the future, whether such changes be in funding, facilities, staffing, contracted services, or any other asset employed for the continuing physical and mental health assistance by the VA or any other organization,
- (3) That all terminated employees shall be reinstated with back pay,

Be it Finally Resolved,

That Nebraska legislators, both national and state, shall be provided a copy of this resolution and shall be asked to sign this resolution indicating support of its intentions and to return such copy to the provider thereof, that signing or failing to sign this resolution shall indicate support or lack of support for its intention, such indication to be shared with Nebraska veterans and the public at large.