

1 Title: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE OFFICE**
2 **OF VETERAN LIFE**

3
4 Sponsored by: Brandon Ray
5 Written by: Brandon Ray
6 Resolution Number: 07.14-15

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8 WHEREAS University policy is to promote diversity on campus; and

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10 WHEREAS at the start of the 2014-2015 school year, there were over 400 veterans, 71
11 active duty service members, 36 National Guard, 52 reservists, and 1,000 military
12 dependents that were students on the Seattle campus¹; and

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14 WHEREAS veteran (including active duty military, reservist, and National Guard)
15 students, staff, and faculty are an important part of campus diversity; and

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17 WHEREAS the United States Veterans Administration developed the Post-9/11 GI Bill,
18 that likely will continue to draw veterans and their dependents to the University of
19 Washington for the foreseeable future; and

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21 WHEREAS the University of Washington Office of External Affairs recently conducted
22 a study on veterans' services, in which the Office concluded that the inability to easily
23 connect people, resources and information on veterans' issues limits the potential support
24 the UW has to offer them²; and

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26 WHEREAS the University of Washington Veterans Center is designed to provide
27 students with information about VA educational benefits, certify GI Bill benefits, and
28 answer questions about financial aid³; and

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30 WHEREAS no centralized organization exists on the University of Washington campus
31 to provide non-financial resources to meet the veteran community's needs; and

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33 WHEREAS other highly regarded universities in the United States, such as Arizona
34 State, Ohio State, Michigan State, Texas A&M, University of California – Los Angeles,
35 and University of Maryland, all have campus veteran resource centers; and

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37 WHEREAS the Office of External Affairs study recommends that a new position be
38 created for a Veterans and Military Affairs Coordinator, who would be tasked with
39 coordination, outreach, and community building⁴; and

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41 WHEREAS members of the registered student organization, Husky United Military
42 Veterans, have submitted unit application documentation requesting funding for a veteran

¹ University of Washington Office of Registrar.

² *Assessing Veterans Services and Programs*. Office of External Affairs. University of Washington. 2015.

³ <https://depts.washington.edu/osfaweb/veterans/>

⁴ *Assessing Veterans Services and Programs*. Office of External Affairs. University of Washington. 2015.

43 resource center, Office of Veteran Life, that will be modeled after the Q Center and will
44 meet the recommendation from the Office of External Affairs,

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46 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL
47 STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

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49 THAT the GPSS supports the formation of the Office of Veteran Life; and

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51 THAT the GPSS encourages the UW administration to fully fund the Office of Veteran
52 Life; and

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54 THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Vice President for Student Life Denzil Suite,
55 Associate Vice President for Student Life Lincoln Johnson, Director of Veterans Center
56 Tim Wold, Vice President for Minority Affairs & Vice Provost for Diversity Sheila
57 Edwards Lange, Services and Activities Fee Committee Chair Mac Zelle, and ASUW
58 President Christina Xiao.

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60 *Presented to GPSS for approval on May 20th, 2015*

61 *Approved on May 20th, 2015*