

**CONSTITUTION**  
**WESTERN CAUCUS**  
**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**PREAMBLE**

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be **The Western Caucus of the American Legion.**

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

- Section 1. To provide a forum for the participating Departments to exchange ideas for the betterment of The American Legion and to promote friendship and understanding.
- Section 2. To promote the programs, principals and precepts of The American Legion.
- Section 3. To recognize and assist candidates for National Office of The American Legion.
- Section 4. To recognize and mentor potential future leadership of The American Legion.

**ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION**

Section 1. The Western Caucus shall consist of the following Departments of The American Legion: Arizona, Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Mexico, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Philippines, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

**ARTICLE IV – ELIGIBILITY**

Section 1. Any member of The American Legion in good standing belonging to a Department of the Western Caucus shall be eligible to hold office in the Western Caucus.

**ARTICLE V – ANNUAL MEETING**

- Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Western Caucus shall be held in conjunction with the National Convention of The American Legion.
- Section 2. Ten (10) Departments of the Western Caucus shall constitute a quorum.

**ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS**

- Section 1. The Annual Meeting on even numbered years, shall elect a Chairman, Secretary and such other officers as may be deemed necessary. The Executive Committee may remove any officer for inefficiency; a two-thirds vote of said committee being necessary to effect such removal.
- Section 2. Such officers shall serve until the adjournment of the second succeeding National Convention following their election and thereafter until their successor is chosen. Vacancies in these offices occurring between National Conventions shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- Section 1. Between Annual Meetings, the administrative power shall be vested in the Executive Committee, which shall be composed of the Western Caucus Chairman, Western Caucus Secretary and an authorized representative of each participating Department.
- Section 2. An “authorized representative” of a participating Department is deemed to be, in descending order, the National Executive Committeeman; Alternate Executive Committeeman; Department Commander; or Department Adjutant.
- Section 3. The Executive Committee will meet in conjunction with the Spring and Fall National Executive Committee meetings of The American Legion.
- Section 4. All appointments and other actions of the Executive Committee shall be ratified by action of the next following Annual Meeting.

**ARTICLE VIII - VOTING**

- Section 1. Each Department of the Western Caucus shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The Chairman shall be entitled to one (1) vote to be exercised only in cases of a tie vote. The Secretary shall vote only if he/she is the only authorized representative of his/her Department.
- Section 2. Voting may be by roll call of each participating Department. The Chairman at the request of three (3) participating Departments may call for a secret ballot.
- Section 3. Proxy votes shall not be authorized.

**ARTICLE IX – RULES OF ORDER**

- Section 1. All proceedings of the Western Caucus shall be conducted under and pursuant to Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised except as herein otherwise provided.

**ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS**

- Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at the Annual Meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the participating Departments. Provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the Executive Committee meeting preceding the Annual Meeting, and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to each participating Department thirty (30) days in advance of the date of the Annual Meeting when such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said Departments that at the Annual Meeting a proposal to amend the Constitution is to be voted upon.

Adopted October 10, 2001

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barry J. Snyder, Secretary  
Western Caucus

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
PNC Bruce Thiesen, Chairman  
Western Caucus