

(5) to adopt, amend, and alter a constitution and bylaws not inconsistent with the laws of the United States or any State in which the corporation is to operate, for the management of its property and the regulation of its affairs;

(6) to contract and be contracted with;

(7) to take by lease, gift, purchase, grant, devise, or bequest from any public body or agency or any private corporation, association, partnership, firm, or individual and to hold absolutely or in trust for any of the purposes of the corporation any property, real, personal, or mixed, necessary or convenient for attaining the objects and carrying into effect the purposes of the corporation, subject, however, to applicable provisions of law of any State (A) governing the amount or kind of property which may be held by, or (B) otherwise limiting or controlling the ownership of property by, a corporation operating in such State;

(8) to transfer, convey, lease, sublease, encumber, and otherwise alienate real, personal, or mixed property;

(9) to borrow money for the purposes of the corporation, issue bonds therefor, and secure the same by mortgage, deed of trust, pledge, or otherwise, subject in every case to all applicable provisions of Federal and State laws; and

(10) to do any and all acts and things necessary and proper to carry out the objects and purposes of the corporation.

(Pub. L. 85-530, § 4, July 18, 1958, 72 Stat. 371.)

#### § 765. Membership

Eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights, privileges, and designation of classes of members shall be determined as the constitution and bylaws of the corporation may provide but in no case shall eligibility for all classes of membership include persons who did not serve honorably in the armed forces of the United States during the period beginning April 6, 1917 and ending November 11, 1918.

(Pub. L. 85-530, § 5, July 18, 1958, 72 Stat. 372.)

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 761, 767 of this title.

#### § 766. Governing authority; composition; form; meeting places

(a) The supreme governing authority of the corporation shall be the national convention thereof, composed of such officers and elected representatives from the several States and other local subdivisions of the corporate organization as shall be provided by the constitution and bylaws, each of such duly elected representatives to be entitled to one vote at such national convention. The form of the government of the corporation shall always be representative of the membership at large and shall not permit the concentration of the control thereof in the hands of a limited number of members or in a self-perpetuating group not so representative. The meetings of the national convention may be held in any State or Territory or in the District of Columbia.

(b) Each member of the corporation, other than associate or honorary members, shall have the right to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote at all other meetings of the members of the corporation.

(Pub. L. 85-530, § 6, July 18, 1958, 72 Stat. 372.)

#### § 767. Board of administration

##### (a) Governing period

During the intervals between the national convention, the board of administration shall be the governing board of the corporation and shall be responsible for the general policies, programs, and activities of the corporation.

##### (b) Initial board

Upon the enactment of this chapter the membership of the initial board of administration of the corporation shall consist of such of the following present members of the board of administration of the Veterans of World War I of the United States of America, Incorporated (the corporation described in section 778 of this title) as qualify for membership under section 765 of this title and who are qualified members of said board of administration, to wit: Harlan W. Barnes, Lewis Brake, Fred J. Hollenbeck, Reginald H. Murphy, Junior, Stanton L. Smiley, Catherine Sawyer, Emerson R. J. Follett, M. George Deutsch, Patrick F. O'Connor, Charles L. Gore, Arch MacIntyre, G. Edwin Slater, John E. Erickson, A. H. Ohlsen, and Arthur G. Estes.

##### (c) Election

Thereafter, the board of administration of the corporation shall consist of not less than seven members elected in the manner and for the term prescribed in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

(Pub. L. 85-530, § 7, July 18, 1958, 72 Stat. 372.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Enactment of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (b), means enactment of Pub. L. 85-530, which was enacted July 18, 1958.

#### § 768. Officers

The officers of the corporation shall be a national commander, a national senior vice commander, a national junior vice commander, a national quartermaster, a national adjutant (which latter two offices may be held by one person), a national judge advocate, nine regional vice commanders, and such other officers as may be prescribed in the constitution and bylaws. The officers of the corporation shall be selected in such manner and for such terms and with such duties and titles as may be prescribed in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

(Pub. L. 85-530, § 8, July 18, 1958, 72 Stat. 373.)

#### § 769. Principal office; territorial scope of activities; agent for service of process

(a) The principal office of the corporation shall be located in Washington, District of Columbia, or in such other place as may be determined by the board of administration; but the activities of the corporation shall not be con-