

**SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS**

WHEREAS, employees who have served in the armed forces (veterans) may struggle with issues other OCSEA members do not; and

WHEREAS, finding a voice within the union often contains its own set of difficulties not always understood by non-veteran members, making this population misunderstood or overlooked; and

WHEREAS, connecting with this population will give the membership an understanding of the importance of veterans' struggles in the social and political environments. It's vital that OCSEA, through the education of our members, help find a way to assist our veteran members with reconnecting to society and to the union movement; and

WHEREAS, OCSEA holds the labor seat on the Department of Veterans Services Advisory Committee that serves to advise and

20 assist the Ohio Department of Veterans Services. This Department  
21 helps Ohio's veterans with assistance in filing veterans' claims,  
22 assistance in employment and housing issues. Union members that  
23 have served our country are often eligible for membership in  
24 organizations such as Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American  
25 Legion and other service-connected groups. OCSEA may assist  
26 members in need to get assistance from these organizations, as well  
27 as entry into Veterans Administration assistance programs that the  
28 member may not know are available to them; now

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30       THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED OCSEA will work to connect  
31 veteran members to the services they need as well as to veteran's  
32 service organizations; and

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34       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED OCSEA will make it a priority to  
35 educate its membership about services unique to our member  
36 veterans, including through an annual Veteran's Conference; and

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38           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED OCSEA affirms its support for  
39   our brothers and sisters working for the U.S. Department of Veterans  
40   Affairs who are devoting their careers to caring for our nation's  
41   veterans; and

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43           BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED OCSEA call on the Department to  
44   create a more positive organizational culture in order to maximize the  
45   quality of care and services offered to veterans.