

The Returned & Services League of Australia (NSW Branch)



Title Update on Actions from previous Congresses

Last Updated 17 June 2024

Action is being undertaken on all outstanding motions from the 2018, 2019 and 2021 Annual Congress. The following motions are open, and actions being taken.

Motions closed as of 17 June 2024:

2019

Motion 9: Investigate excessive wait times for psychiatrists.

Motion 11: Defence Pensions and Self-Managed Super Funds.

Motion 20: Kokoda transfer from DFAT to DVA.

Motion 21: Amendment made the National Service Medal Regulations (1951-1972).

Motion 22: Law Society Volunteer Practicing Certificates.

2020

Nil.

2021

Motion 4: Support for a second Vietnam Service Medal.

2022

Motion 7.4: Solar Panel Instalment and Maintenance Programme.

2023

Motion 6.4: Australian Flag Protocol

Motion 7.1: Government entitlements.

All motions that have been closed have been done so by way of Closure Letter to the submitting sub-Branch.

Motions in Progress as of 17 June 2024.

2018

Motion 35 (2018)		
"That RSL NSW make representations to the Australian Government to include former Citizen Military Forces (CMF) together with current and former Reservists in Non-Liability Health Care provisions (as detailed in Factsheet HSV109 Non-Liability Health Care)."	Contact DVA – find out what the justification for current policy is	Completed
	Raise matter with NVAC/National	Completed
	Raise issue with ESORT	Completed
	Raise matter with Minister for Veterans' Affairs	Ongoing
	Raise matter with Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs	Ongoing
Outcome Achieved: This matter is ongoing, with several National ESOs pressuring both the Government and the Opposition to introduce NLHC for all Reservists.		

2019

Motion 8 (2019)		
"That RSL NSW approach the Department of Veterans' Affairs to lobby that the Medical fraternity and its associated bodies be allowed to receive the same rate of compensation for services rendered to veterans who either possess a White Card or Gold Card as they would for persons treated under the Government's Workcover agreement"	Raise issue of DVA fee schedules with Australian Medical Association (AMA)	Completed
	AMA confirmation fee schedule issue	Completed
	Raise issue of DVA fee schedules with NVAC, to then be passed to ESORT	Completed
	Update raising sub-Branch	Completed
	To close with sub-Branch blessing	Ongoing
Outcome Achieved: Medical fees under DVA being discussed at ESORT and through the Royal Commission.		

2020

2021

Motion 2 – Hospitalisation (2021) Wingham		
To Improve the Triage Process That RSL work with the Department of Health and Local Health District's to introduce optional boxes on LHD paperwork to voluntarily identify veterans upon hospitalisation for support to be provided by ESO's.	To liaise with sub-Branches	Completed
	Draft Endorsement Letter	Completed
	Contact sub-Branch about progress	Completed
	Letters sent to LHD Chiefs and Minister	Completed
	Update sub-Branch on outcome and request next steps.	Ongoing
Outcome Achieved: Hunter-New England has implemented this process. Further research and consultation with Wingham is required to understand the efficiency of this new administrative process. Further consultation with the government is required to determine whether or not Local Health District Chief's are willing to work with RSL to introduce this new plan.		

The Returned & Services League of Australia (NSW Branch)



Motion 3 (2021)		
That RSL NSW ask the Federal Government to consider the proposal from the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam Association (AATTVA) TPI WA Branch that a non means tested, tax free service pension for all TPI recipients, regardless of age be implemented and that the disparity between widower pensions and the current TPI payment, should be addressed by increasing the payment to the full TPI amount.	Initial Contact	Completed
	Initial Meeting	Completed
	VSPC support for actions	Completed
	Raised to NVAC	Completed
	Raised to ESORT	Ongoing
Outcome Achieved: The matter is currently being considered by ESORT. It should also be noted that an increase in TPI was part of the Federal Budget for FY22/23.		

Motion 5 (2021)		
That RSL NSW consult with the Premier of New South Wales to have the War Memorial situated on the marble wall in the entrance to the former Maritime Services Board building returned to its former glory by arranging the removal of a multi panelled painting which conceals the War Memorial.	Initial Contact	Completed
	Initial Meeting	Completed
	VSPC support for actions	Completed
	Initial letters drafted to MCA , Premier and Minister for Arts	Completed
	Receive response from MCA , Premier and Minister for Arts	Ongoing
	Raise in face-to-face meeting with NSW Minister for Veterans' Affairs	Completed
	Contact sub-Branch to determine next steps	Not started
Outcome Achieved: Thus far, no stakeholder has demonstrated support for this motion. RSL NSW continues its engagement with the NSW Minister for Veterans' Affairs and will determine if there is a possible pathway forward.		

Motion 6.3 – Middle East Area of Operations Annual Commemoration (2023) Glenorie		
That RSL NSW lobby RSL Australia to establish the 11th of July annually as the Middle East Area of Operations (MEAO) National Commemorative Day, with the inaugural commemoration being 11 July 2024.	RSL NSW to liaise with RSLA	Completed
	RSLA to respond	Completed
	Draft endorsement letter	Not started
	Raised with Minister for Veterans' Affairs	Not started
	Raised with Governor-General	Not started
	Gazetted by Government	Not started
Outcome Achieved: Pending approval and endorsement from RSLA.		

The Returned & Services League of Australia (NSW Branch)



RSL

Motion 9 (2021)		
<p>That RSL NSW approach RSL National for the purposes of RSL National expanding the Charitable Purpose to include persons:</p> <p>who are veterans within the definition in the <i>Australian Veterans' Recognition (Putting Veterans and their Families First) Act 2019</i>; and who have served or are serving as a member of the Armed Forces of:</p> <p>(i) any country presently or formerly a member of the British Commonwealth;</p> <p>(ii) any country or place presently or formerly a Crown Colony of the United Kingdom;</p> <p>(iii) the United States of America; or to whom (a) or (b) does not apply but who is an Australian citizen or permanent resident and who in a theatre of conflict:</p> <p>(i) either served with, supported or was otherwise engaged with the Australian Defence Force or the Armed Forces of those countries or places referred to in paragraph (b) above; or</p> <p>(ii) served as a member of the Armed Forces of another country or place which, during that time of conflict, was an ally of the Commonwealth.</p>	Initial Contact	Completed
	Initial Meeting	Completed
	Matter raised to NVAC	Completed
	Rewrite Initial paper	Completed
	Re-raise matter to NVAC	Completed
	Raise matter to RSL Australia Board	Ongoing
<p>Outcome Achieved: The motion is before the RSL National Board for consideration. If it is accepted, the Charitable Purpose of RSL Australia will be amended.</p>		

2022

Motion 7.3 (2022)		
<p>Homelessness</p> <p>That RSL NSW prepare a business case for the Government, through the Federal Minister for Veterans Affairs, for addressing homelessness and the risks of homelessness within the Veteran Community by incorporating into law a statutory right to shelter and protection from homelessness, including an express statutory protection to acknowledge and manage the higher risk of veteran homelessness.</p>	Contact Ourimbah-Lisarow	Completed
	Raise with VSPC	Completed
	Draft <i>Vulnerable People Bill</i> – including veterans	Completed
	Ourimbah-Lisarow notified. Met for discussion and to edit.	Completed
	Edits made and draft Bill returned	Completed
	Meeting for further discussion.	Ongoing
<p>Outcome Achieved: RSL NSW has been working with the NSW government to improve accommodation supports for veterans. NSW government has not identified whether veterans will be included in the next homelessness strategy however they have expressed that there may not be a homelessness strategy.</p>		

The Returned & Services League of Australia (NSW Branch)



2023

RSL
NSW

Reclassify 4RAR		
RSL NSW to work with RSLA to encourage government to reclassify Malaysia 4RAR from 'peacekeeping' to 'active service'.	Research	Completed
	Conversation with members	Completed
	Meeting to discuss strategy with members	Ongoing
	RSLA response	Completed
	Raise with Minister for Veterans' Affairs	Not started
	Raise with Governor-General	Not started
	Update sub-Branch	Not started
	Launch media release	Not started
Outcome Achieved: Discussions required with sub-Branch.		

Victoria Cross recommendation for Pte Norton		
RSL NSW to lobby RSLA to award Pte Norton with a Victoria Cross due to heroic actions in Vietnam.	Research	Completed
	Organise meeting at sub-Branch	Completed
	Reading Victoria Cross Regulations	Completed
	Draft letters: match actions to Victoria Cross Regulations	Completed
	Raise with Minister for Veterans' Affairs	Not started
	Raise with Governor-General	Not started
	Update sub-Branch	Not started
Outcome Achieved: Letters to politicians currently being reviewed.		