

personnel who served on active military duty during all of the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel.”

§ 21704. Powers

The corporation may—

- (1) adopt a constitution, bylaws, and regulations to carry out the purposes of the corporation;
- (2) adopt and alter a corporate seal;
- (3) establish and maintain offices to conduct its activities;
- (4) establish State and territorial organizations and local chapter or post organizations;
- (5) provide guidance and leadership to organizations and local chapters established under paragraph (4), but may not control or otherwise influence the specific activities and conduct of such organizations and local chapters;
- (6) acquire, own, lease, encumber, and transfer property as necessary to carry out the purposes of the corporation;
- (7) publish a magazine and other publications;
- (8) sue and be sued; and
- (9) do any other act necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the corporation.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1297; Pub. L. 112–66, §1, Dec. 13, 2011, 125 Stat. 768.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
21704	36:44 (words before 4th semicolon less perpetual succession, words after 5th semicolon). 36:47.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §4 (words before 4th semicolon less perpetual succession, words after 5th semicolon), 41 Stat. 285; June 26, 1953, ch. 153, §1, 67 Stat. 82. Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §7, 41 Stat. 285.

In this section, the text of 36:47 is omitted as executed and obsolete.

In clause (1), the words “not inconsistent with the laws of the United States or of any State” are omitted as unnecessary.

In clause (2), the words “at pleasure” are omitted as unnecessary.

In clause (3), the word “activities” is substituted for “business” for consistency in the revised title.

Clause (5) is substituted for “to receive, hold, own, use, and dispose of such real estate and personal property as shall be necessary for its corporate purposes” for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In clause (7), the words “in courts of law and equity” are omitted as unnecessary.

In clause (8), the words “do any other act” are substituted for “generally to do any and all such acts and things” for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2011—Pars. (5) to (9). Pub. L. 112–66 added par. (5) and redesignated former pars. (5) to (8) as (6) to (9), respectively.

§ 21704A. Nondiscrimination

The requirements for holding a staff position in the corporation may not discriminate on the

basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

(Added Pub. L. 116–35, §4(a), July 30, 2019, 133 Stat. 1046.)

§ 21705. Exclusive right to name, emblems, and badges

The corporation and its State and local subdivisions have the exclusive right to use the name “The American Legion” or “American Legion”. The corporation has the exclusive right to use, manufacture, and control the right to manufacture, emblems and badges the corporation adopts.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1298.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
21705	36:44 (words between 4th and 5th semicolons). 36:48.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §§4 (words between 4th and 5th semicolons), 8, 41 Stat. 285; June 26, 1953, ch. 153, 67 Stat. 82.

The word “sole” is omitted as included in “exclusive”. The words “to have and”, “in carrying out its purposes”, and “in carrying out the purposes of the corporation” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 21706. Political activities

The corporation shall be nonpolitical and may not promote the candidacy of an individual seeking public office.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1298.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
21706	36:46.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §6, 41 Stat. 285.

The words “as an organization” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 21707. Service of process

As a condition to the exercise of any power or privilege granted by this chapter, the corporation shall file, with the secretary of state or other designated official of each State, the name and address of an agent in that State on whom legal process or demands against the corporation may be served.

(Pub. L. 105–225, Aug. 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1298.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
21707	36:50.	Sept. 16, 1919, ch. 59, §9 1/2, 41 Stat. 285.

The word “precedent” is omitted as unnecessary. The words “with the secretary of state or other designated official” are substituted for “in the office of the secretary of state” for consistency in the revised title. The words “post-office” and “authorized” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 21708. Annual report

Not later than January 1 of each year, the corporation shall submit a report to Congress on