

Should there be a division among the delegates representing the Post, each delegate present and voting shall cast their pro rata share of the total voting strength of the Post. For the purpose of this section, a Post Commander shall be considered a delegate.

A roll call vote may be required and entered upon the record at the call of any three officers or delegates representing three different Posts.

(End of Article IV)

ARTICLE V - DEPARTMENTS

Sec. 501 - Formation, Institution and Chartering.

Formation. When twenty-five (25) or more Posts with a total membership of at least one thousand (1,000) have been organized in any State, Territory, Foreign Possession or Country, a new Department may be chartered in said State, Territory, Foreign Possession or Country.

Institution. Each new Department shall be instituted within sixty (60) days of the date the charter application is approved by the Commander-in-Chief. If not instituted within sixty (60) days from the date of approval, said approval may be rescinded.

Chartering. Charters of Departments shall be authorized by the Commander-in-Chief.

Sec. 502 - Bylaws.

The Department Convention shall adopt or may amend Bylaws governing the Department as prescribed in the Manual of Procedure, provided such Bylaws do not conflict with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual or laws and usages of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Sec. 503 - Regular, Special and Committee Meetings; Convention; Quorum; Authorized Attendees.

Each Department shall hold one Convention each year, which shall begin no earlier than ninety days prior to the convening of the National Convention and shall be concluded no less than thirty (30) days prior to the conclusion of the National Convention.

The minimum number of delegates required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a Department Convention shall be not less than one delegate each from ten Posts in the Department unless the Department Bylaws may prescribe a different number of delegates required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Any member in good standing or one on official business may visit a Department Convention; however, such visitor shall have no voice in business discussions unless recognized by the Commander, and shall have no voting privileges. Those on official business shall be recognized by the Commander for the conduct of business.

The Department Council of Administration or Department Convention may allow delegates to participate in meetings using technology that allows participating members to communicate with each other simultaneously.

Sec. 504 - Governing Body; Composition.

Each Department shall be governed by a Department Convention. The Department Convention shall consist of:

1. The Commander-in-Chief and Past Commanders-in-Chief who are members in good standing in a Post within the Department.