

1980

**NATIONAL
CONFERENCE
ON
VOLUNTEERISM**

Resolutions

from the

Issue Sessions

at the

**October 12-15
AVA/AVAS/AVB Conference**

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Issue Group: Employment Credit for
Volunteer Experience

Whereas, It is recognized that the inherent value of work experience is the experience itself and not whether such experience is paid or unpaid; and

Whereas, Volunteer workers perform jobs which require such marketable skills as management, supervision, training, teaching, grant-writing, fund raising, salesmanship, community organization, research, development, office management and a myriad of clerical skills, as well as communication, human relations, and service skills; and

Whereas, Many employers currently do not recognize the validity of volunteer work experience;

We resolve that, The 1980 National Conference on Volunteerism urge federal, state/province, and local governments, private employers and charitable and service organizations to recognize and include relevant volunteer work experience in the job applicant's work history; and

We resolve that, This conference endorse the policy that job announcements state that both paid employment and relevant volunteer work will be considered equally; and further

We resolve that, This conference endorse all such efforts in these directions.

Who will do it: We refer these resolutions to the Boards of AVA, AVAS, AVB, for formal adoption as position statements of those Boards, and request that this information be published and distributed to their membership.

Completion date: As soon as possible.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Issue Group: Employment Credit for
Volunteer Experience

Whereas, It is recognized that the participants of this conference have a responsibility to implement these policies;

We resolve that, We in attendance at this conference will return to our places of employment and insure that our own employers recognize and include relevant volunteer work experience in their job applicants' work history; and further

We resolve that, WE are also committed to advocacy efforts with our own volunteers regarding their work history.

Who will do it: We refer these resolutions to the Boards of AVA, AVAS, AVB, for formal adoption as position statements of those Boards, and request that this information be published and distributed to their memberships.

Completion date: As soon as possible.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

Issue Group: International Year of
Disabled Persons

Whereas, We the participants of the 1980 National Conference on Volunteerism join in the support of the International Year of Disabled Persons (IYDP), so proclaimed by the United

Nations to honor commitment to human rights and human dignity;

Whereas, we endorse the concept of independent living which includes self determination and choice for all individuals with disabilities;

Whereas, The United States Council for the International Year of Disabled Persons' mission is to promote the full participation of disabled persons in the life of our society; and

Whereas, We recognize that volunteering is a right and a privilege of all citizens,

We resolve that, The United States Council of IYDP, Presidents Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped, the Federal Intra-agency Committee on IYDP, The President's Committee on Retardation, State Offices of Developmental Disabilities and other relevant organizations incorporate into their goals involvement of people with disabilities, not only as direct service volunteers, but also as planners and consultants in the development of programming and training issues.

We resolve that, AVA, AVAS, AVB and the participants in the 1980 Conference on Volunteerism will convene workshops, seminars and other community education functions throughout their communities during 1981, to focus on eliminating attitudinal as well as architectural barriers which prevent disabled persons from volunteering and

We resolve that, The participants will encourage Federal State and Local governments, private sector organizations and the business sector to develop locally based independent living programs versus further expansion of segregating institutions as a means of approaching special populations.

Who will do it: Included in resolution.

Completion date: Throughout 1981 and thereafter.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

Issue Group: National Service

Whereas, Legislation is now pending in Congress to examine the need for and desirability of establishing a comprehensive national service program to meet a broad range of national and local needs; and

Whereas, The volunteer sector continues, since our nation's founding, to give leadership in development of citizen service in all areas of national life, therefore,

Be it resolved by participants in the 1980 National Conference on Volunteerism that Congress be requested to assure that the volunteer community have major participation on the Commission on National Service, and that representatives of national volunteer organizations and volunteers have full opportunity to participate in the deliberations of the Commission.

Who will do it: Issues Chain will transmit to Congressional leadership.

Completion date: Before Congress reconvenes November 12.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

Issue Group: National Service

Whereas, The issue of national service will continue to be discussed and will grow in importance in the future; and

Whereas, National Service, if implemented, will have enormous impact on the volunteer sector.

We resolve that, We, as those potentially affected by National Service legislation, be kept

informed, through a network of national organizations to be developed by a task force comprised of members of AVA, AVB, AVAS and the Alliance for Volunteerism and others.

Who will do it: Implicit in resolution.

Completion date: Convening of task force by December 1.

RESOLUTION NO. 6 Issue Group: Volunteer Mileage and Gasoline Shortage

Whereas, The States of Iowa, Maryland, California have already passed a bill to increase the volunteer mileage deduction to between 18.5% and 21.5% per mile and

Whereas, The States of Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, North Carolina, are likewise initiating bills at the state level to increase the volunteer mileage deduction rate:

We resolve that, Volunteers, state and local associations of volunteer administrators, and concerned others should initiate and lobby with their state legislators for increasing the volunteer mileage deduction rate to a level comparable to the state revenue department allowance for business for mileage deductions.

RESOLUTION NO. 7 Issue Group: Volunteer Mileage and Gasoline Shortage

Whereas, The Volunteer Mileage and Gasoline Shortage Issue Group identified many parameters of concern regarding liability insurance for volunteer drivers, directors of volunteer programs, and board members;

We resolve that, The 1981 AVA/AVB/AVAS National Conference Planning Committee should consider developing workshop sessions to present information on the cost and coverage of liability insurance for volunteer drivers, directors of volunteer programs and board members.

RESOLUTION NO. 8 Issue Group: Volunteer Mileage and Gasoline Shortage

Whereas, The Mikulski Mileage Deduction Bill (HR5409) would correct the inequity between business and volunteer mileage deductions by requiring the deduction rate (18.5c) now allowed for business; and

Whereas, Key members of the House Ways and Means Committee who have not yet supported or have opposed this bill are:

James Martin	North Carolina	Bill Franzel	Minnesota
W. Fowler, Jr.	Georgia	Sam Gibbon	Florida
J. J. Pickle	Texas	James C. Corman	California
Charles Rangel	New York		

We resolve that, All members of AVA/AVB/AVAS; volunteers; and concerned others should phone and visit the above mentioned state representatives by December 1, 1980 to lobby for their support of this bill; and

We resolve that, should this bill be reintroduced in 1981, all members of the House Ways and Means Committee should be recontacted by March 1, 1981 to lobby for their support of this bill.

RESOLUTION NO. 9 Issue Group: Government Involvement

Whereas, The service of volunteers is recognized and acceptable under most federal grants and contracts,

Whereas, The effective involvement of volunteers improve service delivery,

Whereas, Confusion exists between several federal programs as to allowable agency expenditures on volunteer services,

Whereas, This confusion frequently leads to conflicting and contradictory volunteer management policies with organizations,

We resolve that, Congress provide that volunteers in programs funded under federal grants and contracts be eligible for benefits such as insurance, training, and reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses in the same manner as the paid staff of these programs are eligible.

Who will do it: Conference spokesperson report to Senate hearing on October 15 or October 20.

Completion date: 1981.

RESOLUTION NO. 10

Issue Group: Government Involvement

Whereas, government payments on grants and contracts are frequently delayed both between units of government and voluntary agencies,

Whereas, frequently voluntary agencies must take out loans to cover their operating costs (pay salaries, etc.) because of cash flow problems created by these delays,

Whereas, the interest on these loans is not a federally allowable cost and is not reimbursable,

We resolve that, Congress authorize as an allowable expense under federal grants and contracts, interest payments paid by voluntary agencies on loans taken out to cover operating expenses when federal payments are not received within 30 days of due date, even though all requirements have been met by the agency.

We further resolve that, dates be established in each federal grant and contract so that voluntary agencies will know when to expect federal payment and when loan interest payments would be reimbursable.

Who will do it: Conference spokesperson to present to Senate hearing on either October 15 or October 20.

Completion date: 1981.

RESOLUTION NO. 11

Issue Group: Government Involvement

Whereas, Most voluntary agencies today receive funding from multiple sources,

Whereas, Most agencies funded by multiple sources are multiple audited,

Whereas, This diverts staff time from both the agency delivering services and the government auditing process,

Whereas, This results in unneeded expense and loss of service,

We resolve that, Legislation and/or regulations be developed at the federal level that identified the principal government funder (the government unit with the largest financial allocation to a non-profit agency) as the entity responsible for the single audit of the multiply funded agency or program. Other units of government would receive and then recognize the single audit.

Who will do it: Conference reporter should present this at Senator Durenberger's hearings on either October 15 or October 20.

Completion date: 1981

RESOLUTION NO. 12

Issue Group: Government Involvement

Whereas, The service of volunteers is recognized, accepted and even lauded by government (for example, Head Start programs require it),

Whereas, The federal government also inhibits and in some instances prohibits the service of volunteers (under Title XX their service cannot be used for matching purposes),

We resolve that, Congress, through legislative action and directives to federal agencies remove inhibitions and prohibitions to volunteer service,

We further resolve that, Congress should act immediately to repeal USC 31 Sec. 665B which specifically prohibits volunteer service within federal agencies except in extreme emergencies.

Who will do it: Conference spokesperson report to Senate hearing on October 15 or October 20.

Completion date: 1981

RESOLUTION NO. 13

Issue Group: Government Involvement

Whereas, The AVA, AVAS, and AVB recognize the need for a sound data base for information about volunteers, volunteer activities, program and policy development,

We resolve that, The AVA, AVAS, and AVB jointly establish a national task force charged with the responsibility to recommend:

1. Methods by which uniform data can be obtained
2. The development of a uniform taxonomy.

The task force should include other interested voluntary and government organizations in addition to the three convening organizations, should explore the possibility of an exception to USC 31 Sec. 665B to encourage volunteers in federal offices to gather, store and retrieve volunteer information and should develop a specific recommendation to ensure continuity and continued availability of volunteer data, including effective use of the federal telecommunications system.

Who will do it: AVA, AVAS, and AVB jointly.

Completion date: Task force to be established by March 1, 1981 with a report due at the 1981 National Conference on Volunteerism.

RESOLUTION NO. 14

Issue Group: Volunteer Mileage

Whereas, Senator David Durenberger has introduced a companion bill to HR 5409 in the Senate regarding volunteer mileage deductions,

We resolve that, to support S1867 the Volunteer Mileage Deduction Bill in the Senate.