

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



LEGISLATIVE

Bulletin 2

2024-2025



BE AN ADVOCATE ~ BE INFORMED ~ BE ENGAGED!

2024 IS A VOTING YEAR!

- **Voter Registration** – Register to vote, especially our young adults of 16 years old, because their voice matters in shaping our democracy. Get in touch with high school teachers or set up a voting registration table at the local market. Collaborate with your Post to have a voter information clinic. Registration deadlines in Washington by mail or online is October 28th or in person November 5th.
- **Research Your Candidates** – It is crucial to research your candidates thoroughly to make informed decisions that align with your values, community needs, and veteran issues. Sponsor a roundtable with your Post by inviting a representative to speak at a VFW/ Auxiliary event. Attend legislative conferences, town halls, and meet and greets to engage directly with those running for office and understand their policies better

Visit leg.wa.gov for finding your District, Senator, State Representatives as well as your Congressional members. You can also ~ Email Legislators ~ Find office address & Phone numbers ~ Track Legislation ~ Comment on Bills ~ Call the Legislative Hotline ~ and more!

- **Know What's on your Ballot** - Review voter guides and sample ballots. They can help you decide which candidates to vote for and offer details on each candidate's experience and goals. Ensure you are voting for measures and candidates that truly represent your interests. Washington votes by mail every election and must be deposited or postmarked by Election Day. By taking these steps, you empower yourself and contribute to a more representative and effective legislative process.





Legislative Priority Goals

Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

To ensure Veterans and their survivors have timely access to earned benefits, Congress and VA must:

- Crack down on unaccredited claims consultants know as Claim Sharks.
- Study all toxic and environmental exposures, and implement programs to ensure health care and benefits are provided to all exposed service members and veterans.
- Properly oversee and update the modernized appeals process and digital claims processing.
- Increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation benefits for survivors.
- Improve the accuracy of disability compensation claims related to military sexual trauma.
- Increase burial allowances to account for inflation.
- Ensure that earned VA benefits are never offset by the use of other federal benefits.



Action Corps Weekly is NOT just for VFW and Auxiliary members. Engaging in simple conversations can help spread awareness and educate others. Make sure to have the pamphlet accessible at every Post and information table in the community. Help scan the QR code on the *2024 Priority Goals* brochure so they can start receiving *Action Corps Weekly* and stay updated on important pending legislation. Right now, the Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act is at the top of the list, addressing home care programs provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Remember that our legislative efforts are the root of National President Brenda's tree, with a strong foothold this election year. Together our voices will be heard loud and clear this November!

***“From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans” by making
“Veterans and Family First!”***

**Loyally,
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