

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



LEGISLATIVE

Bulletin 4

2024-2025



BE AN ADVOCATE ~ BE INFORMED ~ BE ENGAGED!

In closing out one of the most historic election years in history, we have just completed an invigorating few months in our legislative efforts. ***Each vote we cast and every conversation we had contributed to shaping our future.*** Knowing that our voices matter and that we played a role in this important process feels empowering.

So that means we are done with our Legislative work, right? WRONG!

We must continue to fight on Capitol Hill to pass legislation that protects the rights of our veterans and provide them the benefits that they and their families deserve! After all, legislative rights were the reason the VFW and Auxiliary were formed.

Our messages need to be loud and clear. Continue to sign up people for the *Action Corps Weekly* so that when a “*Call to Action*” alert is sent out there will be no delay – ***and respond right away!*** Send an email or letter to me to keep me posted on how many you have signed up and any other events or activities.

There are many helpful websites to follow legislative updates to track bills. If you go to the VFW Department of Washington webpage (vfwwa.org), click on NEWS, then WDVA, all veterans bill updates are posted. When you click on a bill, it will list the bills status, where it is in progress, the hearing dates scheduled, how to testify on a bill, receive email notifications and you can even send a comment on the bill to legislators.

HELPFUL LINKS:

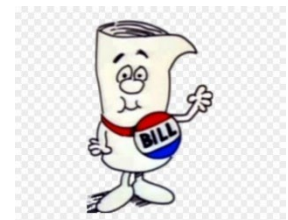
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS – <https://www.dva.wa.gov>

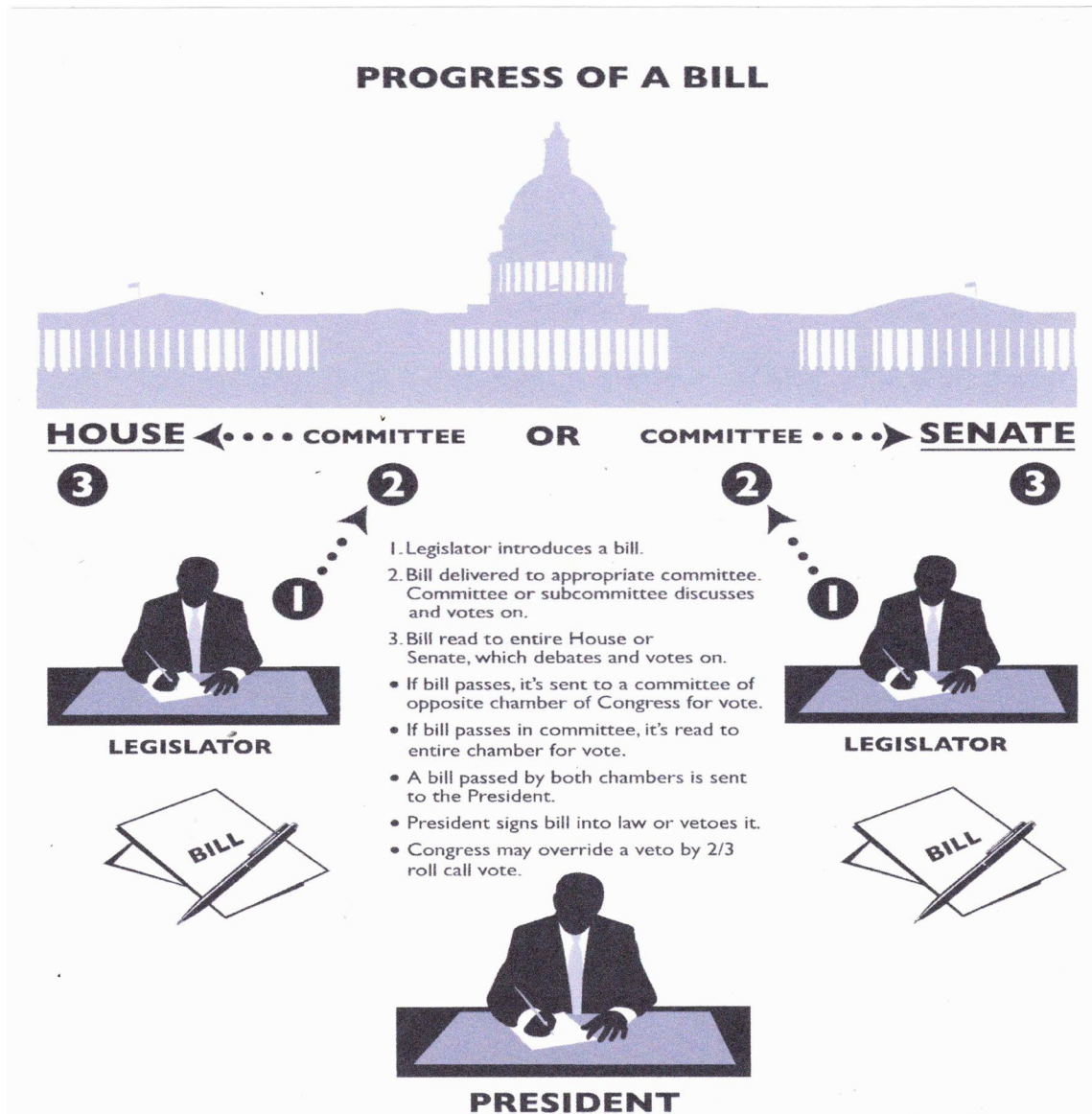
WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATIVE – <https://leg.wa.gov>

US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES – www.house.gov

UNITED STATES CONGRESS – www.congress.gov

US SENATE – www.senate.gov





Mark Your Calendars

The VFW's Washington Conference provides an opportunity for VFW leaders from each state to personally lobby their respective lawmakers and watch our VFW National Commander-in-Chief Al Lipphardt actively testifying on Capitol Hill before the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs committee on behalf of veterans. This is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4th, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. (EDT). This sets the tone for the year. Many pertinent Q & A's are part of this testimony and the knowledge you can glean from it is extremely valuable in your work for the Legislative Program. If you cannot be there in person, be sure to watch the live stream on the VFW website.

2025 TOP PROIITY GOALS:

- BUDGET
- DISABILITY ASSISTANCE AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
- EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRANSITION ASSISTANCE
- HEALTH CARE
- MILITARY REDINESS / QUALITY OF LIFE
- NATIONAL SECURITY, FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND POW/MIA

Please remember, we work hand and hand with our VFW partners on Legislative issues. These issues can be found on the VFW website or in Action Corps Weekly.

2024-2025 Legislative Award No. 1

Most outstanding activity and/or event collaborating with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers. Entry form required and available in MALTA. VFW Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Legislative chairman by March 31st, 2025. for judging.

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

Loyally,

Elaine Taylor
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