

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



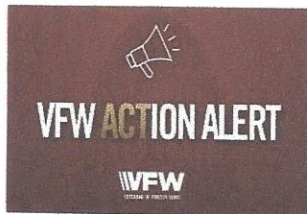
FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

LEGISLATIVE Bulletin 3 2024-2025



Be An Advocate

The election is over, but that does not mean our work in the Legislative Program is done. With the New Year fast approaching, now is the perfect time to renew our commitment and resolve to become more involved in this crucial program. After all, the Legislative process is an ongoing one. By staying engaged and active, we can ensure our voices continue to be heard and our *Priority Goals* stay at the forefront.



There are over 350,00 people signed up for Action Corps weekly, but are you responding to Action Alerts?

When a Call to Action was sent out to tell Congress to stop claim sharks, only 1,789 pushed that button to respond. That is less than 1% of the people that signed up. 😞

The VFW is tracking all this information, and they are having a contest to see which conference will respond the most this year. Those who wish to participate in Action Corps do not need to be to be a VFW or Auxiliary member. Anyone who cares about veteran issues should sign up. Once you respond to an Action Alert, the next time one comes out all you do is take a moment and push the button to send. It is really that simple, so let us continue the Western Conference motto: "The West is the Best!" 😊

- Conduct an 'Action Corps Sign Up Drive" at your Post home or when you have a membership drive. From the VFW web site, have the sign up for Action Corps Weekly information on your phone and help them fill it out or scan the QR code in the *2024 Priority Goals* pamphlet that you handed to them. You can also have a simple sign-up sheet. *Action Corps Weekly* and *Action Alerts* are sent via email, so the individual must have an email address.
- Be involved in your local political process; introduce yourself to city council members, your town's mayor, and state representatives and senators. Remember that all politics are local!
- There are many new U.S. Senators and members of the U.S. House of Representatives who need to know the VFW and its Auxiliary are relentless advocates for our veterans and active-duty military. When communicating with them in person, by phone or email, please be polite, be brief and know your facts on the issue you are contacting them about.

The annual Legislative Conference is March 1st – 6th, 2025 in Washington, D.C. If you are attending it is vital that you be present for the Commander in Chief's testimony before the Veterans Affairs Committee. This important event sets the tone for the year. Many pertinent questions and answers are part of this testimony and the knowledge you gather from it is extremely valuable in your work on the Legislative program. If you can not be there in person, be sure watch the live stream on the VFW website.



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Did you know that over 150 key bills supported by the VFW are currently before the 118th Congress? You can find more information in the VFW Action Center at VFW.org.

Report Your Vote!

One of the most important rights of American citizens is the right to vote. You deserve acknowledgment and the fulfillment that comes with it.

Did you report all election activities on Community Service? Or Auxiliary Outreach? And your Year End report?

Historically, Americanism has been the Program under one's individual vote would be counted, as this is an act of Americanism. However, members have also reported this under Legislative, and rather than get too bogged with which is correct, the most important thing is that you do not report it under both; while Americanism is preferred, should you report voting under Legislative, please keep it consistent and do no "double-dip" by reporting the same actions under two Programs.

BREAKING NEWS! The Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act, known as the Dole Act, passed on a bipartisan 389-8 vote on November 19th. Thank you for pushing that button on *Action Alert!*

BE AN ADVOCATE ~ BE INFORMED ~ BE ENGAGED!

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

Loyally,
Elaine Taylor
Taylor.90@comcast.net