



Legislative 2025 – 2026

Department of Washington

Chairman: Elizabeth Herrera

Bulletin #1

Welcome to another great year! I am very excited to get the Legislative program off to a great start so let's work together and make this a successful year. My goal is to teach us all something new, whether it's how to use a QR code, how to contact and speak with Legislators, what this year's Priority Goals are, and last, but not least, empowering each of us to become the voice of legislative advocacy.

First and foremost, every Auxiliary member should be signed up for VFW Action Corps, if you or anyone in your Auxiliary is not yet signed up, please use the link provided at the end of this bulletin to sign up and make sure you push the button on the Action Alerts from the VFW.

This year's **Priority Goals** are:

- Budget
- Health Care
- Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs
- Education, Employment and Transition Assistance
- Military Readiness
- National Security, Foreign Affairs and POW/MIA

Each year, the VFW focuses on these goals to strengthen and ensure an adequate VA system for millions of current and future veterans and families. The main objective of the legislative program is to improve the lives of our veterans, service members and their families through advocacy. With over 1.5 million VFW and Auxiliary members we can influence lawmakers and their decisions. Did you know that the VFW has an office in Washington D.C.? They play a crucial role in lobbying Congress and the administration on behalf of

veterans and monitor all legislation, testifying at hearings and fight for justice on all major pieces of veteran's legislation.

"Thank you for your Service" is something we all say. There are many ways to show appreciation for our service members with words, but this year, I challenge you all to show your gratitude by translating your words into action. One option is hosting a roundtable discussion with local legislators. Invite them to your Post or facility that can comfortably host your group and share your stories and experiences so legislators can learn about the impact on veterans' lives. Please make sure you always follow your meetings with local lawmakers with a polite email or thank you card. Holidays like Veterans Day, Memorial Day, etc, are great times to host and to honor veterans, invite and include law makers, veterans, and of course make sure to reach out and include youth in your activities.

Please don't forget to use **#AuxLegislative** when posting about your legislative activities it really makes the Department of Washington stand out!!!

Thank you to all members and chairman, please reach out if you have any questions. Please use the links below to learn more about the Legislative Program and I'm also including the QR Code that was provided by National for our program this year!

Warm Regards,

Liz Herrera

Legislative

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www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service

<https://votervoice.net/VFW/Address>

<https://www.congress.gov/>

vfw.org/advocacy

www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support/student-fellowship