

Department of Washington Legislative Bulletin 4
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Margie Lindberg, Chair

Hello everyone, I hope winter has been treating you kindly and you're looking forward to spring!

I heard wonderful news about our past Mid-Winter Conference. I heard that it was very exciting and there was a lot of good information shared. Before I get into the nuts and bolts of this bulletin, I'd like to, again, thank and acknowledge the Auxiliaries that participated in my little legislative contest. Congratulations go out to Auxiliaries 1474 Hillyard, 2289 Rainier, 7392 Whitehead-Muzzall, 9430 Skyway, and 51 Ensign John R. Monahan. I'm sure they will put the materials that I gave them to good use.

In the Action Corps Weekly under Key Bills in Congress there are currently 108 that are being presented before our National Congress; there are 30 that directly affect veterans currently before the Washington State Legislature. To find these look under dva.wa.gov for more detailed information.

I can't stress enough the importance of your Auxiliary discussing some of these bills and picking one or two you want to write to your congressman about.

Some that might catch your attention:

HR303 the Retired Paid Restoration Act; this is to amend Title 10 of the United States code to permit additional, retired members of the Armed Forces, who have a service connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the department of Veterans Affairs for their disability, and either retired pay by recent of their years of military service or combat combat related special compensation.

S1172 the RELIEVE Act; this is to amend title, 38 the United States code to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished to veterans in non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, and for other purposes.

For the state of Washington there is:

HB 1925; expanding the veterans service officer program to increase veteran support, state wide.

HB1560; providing property tax relief by expanding eligibility for senior citizen and disabled veterans property tax exemption program.

As I've said, please find one or two bills that your Auxiliary may be interested in and then write to your Congressman and/or Senators to support our veterans.

This year is an election year, so please remember to contact your local high school's civic teachers and encourage them to make sure all eligible students are registered to vote. Bring voter applications with you if you're doing a Poppy Booth or tabling at a local spring information fair.

Doing it for those who can't.

Loyally,
Margie Lindberg