## DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS AUXILIARY LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM NOVEMBER 2025

## NATIONAL AMBASSADOR AMY JO LETT

BE AN ADVOCATE; BE INFORMED; BE ENGAGED

There has been a lot of concerning material for this program since I last wrote. On October 6, 2025 the Washington Post reported how some veterans exploit \$193 billion in the VA program due to lax controls. They are claiming that Veterans are faking and defrauding the VA system with their disabilities claims. On October 7, 2025 VFW National Commander, Carol Whitmore, responded with her own letter to the Washington Post clearly outlining the physical and mental injuries that 25 years of war have cost. She states that the service men and women signed a contract to serve this country and have kept their end of the agreement and now they will continue to demand that those who asked them to defend our nation do the same, giving them the care and compensation they were promised. **Honor the Contract.** 

Following along those lines, the VFW Action Corps edition (October 13, 2025) states that the passage of S.1032 The Major Richard Star Act has faced a setback. The article states that Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS) objected the passing of this bill citing cost concerns and calling it a "double benefit". Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) requested unanimous consent to pass this legislation and emphasized that they are separate, earned benefits and urged Senate leaders to allow a vote before year's end. The bill has 76 Senate and 304 House cosponsors, and it remains one of the VFW's highest legislative priorities. Currently there is an offset that prevents more than 50,000 combat-injured retirees from receiving both their DOD military retirement pay and their VA disability compensation.

So now more than ever, our Auxiliary members need to be contacting our representatives on Capitol Hill. Tell them that Veterans kept their promise, America must keep hers. This isn't charity—it's a contract, and they need to support S.1032 The Major Richard Star Act!!

There is power in numbers when it comes to Legislation! We need to get our members signed up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly and be informed of the issues, and to respond to any "Action Alerts". When the VFW Commander-in-Chief testifies before Congress, and says "We are 1.4 million members strong" that makes an impact lawmakers can't ignore. Every member counts.

Loyally

Sherri Jeffery 2941 80 Rd Burr Oak, KS 66936 785-545-5800 sherrijeffery@yahoo.com