

**KANSAS VFW AUXILIARY
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
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With the election behind us, it is more vital now than before that we communicate with our elected officials on the needs of our Veterans, military and families. We must be informed on the VFW Priority Goals and see that we advocate to our legislators these important benefits due to those who served our country. In January the VFW will be updating these Priority Goals, so be engaged by getting the current list from the VFW website.

I want to bring to the membership some information I received at the Western Conference concerning the VFW Action Corps Weekly. This weekly news item is e-mailed to over 360,000 people, which gives you the most current information of what is happening on Capitol Hill for our Veterans, military and their families. When you sign up for this e-mail, you will also receive an "Action Alert" with vital information of bills that are being considered by your legislators for our Veterans. Only 1% of those receiving the Action Alert are responding. Only 6,003 responded to the TAP Action Alert, and 1,789 responded to the Claim Sharks Action Alert. You are failing to provide your support to this legislation, if you are not responding. Please consider responding to the VFW Action Alert next time you receive. I received one just last week to contact your U.S. Representative to pass the Senator Elizabeth Dole Act. I responded and received an e-mail from my Representative Tracey Mann. Also they stressed that you do not have to be a VFW member or Auxiliary member to sign up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly. It is for anyone who is willing to keep informed about the legislation being proposed for our Veterans, military and their families.

One other item that was mentioned at Western Conference, is that they recommend not going to the post service officers, but to a certified VA Service Officer who has the training and is insured of liability charges. The Post service officer does not. To find a VA Service Officer near you, contact www.va.gov/vso.

As always, BE AN ADVOCATE, BE INFORMED AND BE ENGAGED. **Be an Advocate** for those who can not speak for themselves; **Be Informed** about the Priority Goals and what the VFW is doing on Capitol Hill for our Veterans; and then **Be Engaged** by attending town halls and meeting our legislators to see what they are doing or will be doing for our Veterans.

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