

VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS 2024-2025 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

BE AN ADVOCATE BE INFORMED BE ENGAGED

One of the main objectives of the Legislative Program is to improve the lives of our veterans, service members, and their families through advocacy. Your efforts, combined with nearly 1.5 million other VFW and Auxiliary members, can influence lawmakers whose decisions affect veterans and their families every day.

Study the issues laid out clearly in the VFW Priority Goals. The Priority Goals reflect the resolutions passed by the VFW to strengthen and ensure an adequate VA system for millions of current and future veterans. These are updated every January, and can be found at www.vfw.org, select the "Advocacy" button then select Legislative Priorities.

Sign up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly. It's free and it's full of news about what's happening on Capitol Hill, with veteran and service member issues. To subscribe, go to www.vfwauxks.org, click on programs, under Legislative, scroll down to bottom to tab "[Click here to sign up for VFW Action Corps Weekly](#)" then complete information and submit. You will receive an e-mail from them each Monday.

Know the guidelines for Auxiliary involvement in the election process. The Auxiliary should have absolutely no political endorsements for candidates. The Auxiliary is encouraged to host or attend town hall meetings. Develop intelligent questions for candidates addressing issues that our membership supports. Use legislative websites for U.S. Congress and Senate to track pieces of legislation. The White House and nearly every one of our elected officials have websites that provide information and options for contacting their offices

In addition, state legislators often introduce legislation that impacts the veterans and service members in our states. Learning about and using your state resources is important as well. Being visible in our legislative communities, both state and federal, is important and is a responsibility each of us should share and undertake.

There are only three questions on the Legislative report, and you are encouraged to send this report as often as needed. These questions are your participation and promotion of VFW Priority Goals; Contacts of Legislators, and Attending Town Hall or Meet and Greet with Legislators. I prefer that all reports are entered through the VFW Auxiliary Department web-site, www.vfwauxks.org. If you need help with this I am more than happy to help, if you would just give me a call.

My awards will be based on reports that were completed on-line, and if your Auxiliary participated in the three questions. Certificate and monetary award will be given at the Department Convention in June.

National Legislative Program Awards for Auxiliaries:

Most outstanding activity and/or event collaborating with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.

- 1) Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event that collaborated with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the completed entry form to the Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Only the Department-winning entry form will be sent to the National Legislative Ambassador.

I am proud to be serving you as your Department Legislative Chairman for the 2024-2025 program year. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for all you do to make sure our veterans, military and families, get the benefits they deserve!

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