

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Tina Roberts, Chairman

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YOUR VOTE ~ YOUR VOICE ~ SUPPORTS OUR VETERANS

NEW YORK STATE PRIMARY LOCAL, STATE & FEDERAL ELECTIONS: June 25, 2024

PRESIDENTIAL, NEW YORK STATE, LOCAL GENERAL ELECTIONS: November 5, 2024

Our mission is to EDUCATE, PARTICIPATE and GET OTHERS INVOLVED!

The 2024 United States Presidential elections will be the 60th quadrennial Presidential Election. Voters will be electing a President and Vice President for a term of 4 years. You can help your Veterans and community members by:

1. Offer them a ride so they can go vote.
2. Help home bound members get absentee ballots.

Support today's Veterans and military by contacting or visiting your Congressional Representatives and stressing that we expect them to fight for Veterans issues in the 118th Congress.

Contact information for your legislators may be found at:

Senate: www.senate.gov/senators/

Congress: www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative

The Priority Goals reflect the resolutions passed and supported by the men and women of the VFW and its Auxiliary. The Priority Goals for the current year were released in January. This year they are:

1. Budget, To fully fund programs for Veterans, service members and their families.
2. Education, Employment and Transition Assistance: To ensure veterans succeed after leaving military service
3. Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs: To ensure Veterans and their survivors have timely access to earned benefits.
4. Health Care: To ensure service members and Veterans receive timely access to high-quality health care without increasing cost shares.
5. Military Quality of Life: To maintain a quality, comprehensive benefits and retirement package that is the backbone for preserving the all-volunteer force.
6. National Security, Foreign Affairs, and POW/MIA: To fully support the all-volunteer force, protect our Nation's citizens and defend American interests around the world.

Here are a few simple ways you can help support our Veterans through the Legislative Program:

1. Become familiar with the VFW Priority Goals-then share this information with other VFW and Auxiliary members during meetings or in newsletters.
2. Know where elected officials stand on Veteran issues, then be prepared to draft letters for upcoming Legislation.
3. Sign up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly-then invite others to sign up. Action Corps weekly is free, and you can find it by visiting www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassrootsefforts to sign up.

4. Respond to VFW Action Alerts-then spread the word for others to act. Write up a letter and have your non e-mail members sign it and mail it for them.
5. Get involved with town hall meetings-then encourage others to attend.
6. Offer rides to members/community members who don't drive.
7. Be sure to vote in all elections-then assist others with the voting process.
8. Use the MALTA Member Resources, Legislative-then teach others what is available in MALTA Members Resources.
9. DO NOT endorse any candidate on behalf of the VFW Auxiliary-we must remain neutral.
10. DO NOT wear any VFW Auxiliary attire when campaigning for a candidate.

The Legislation program information can be found at vfwauxiliary.org, go to the programs tab then to Legislation and all the information you need will be there.

REPORT! REPORT! REPORT by the first of each month!!!

National Awards for Auxiliaries:

1. Most outstanding activities and/or events collaborating with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers. Citations and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with most outstanding activities and/or events that collaborated with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2025, for judging. The Department Legislative Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry. 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.

- Winners will be announced, and awards presented at the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus Ohio.

Department Awards for Auxiliaries

1. \$50.00 Award for the most Outstanding Auxiliary excelling in Legislative Education:

How many different Auxiliary members were educated on Legislation that affect our Veterans?
What types of materials were used?

2. \$50.00 Award for the Most Outstanding Auxiliary excelling in Legislative

Participation: How many times during the year did your Auxiliary organize, speak with, or contact Congressman and Senators regarding Veterans concerns? What were the issues advocated?

“FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS”

as we are

“SOARING INTO THE NEXT CENTURY OF SERVICE WITH OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES!”