



Legislation

Patti Coleman ~ Chairman

The ALA Legislative Program provides information and assistance to American Legion Auxiliary members to advocate for the legislative agenda of The American Legion. We support The American Legion in their legislative endeavors.

The role of the American Legion Auxiliary is to be informed communicators and facilitators with our members to motivate them to contact our elected officials.

We need to build relationships and rapport with our state legislators, congressional representatives and our US senators and/or members of their staff. If you already have an established relationship, utilize the relationship to promote The American Legion Legislative agenda.

Always complete the Legion's *Congressional Meeting Report Form* following any meeting with your U.S. representative, U.S. senator and/or their legislative staff members. Visit www.legion.org/legislative/aar to complete the form.

Subscribe to e-newsletters of your elected officials to monitor what they consider to be their priorities and to make sure that veteran/military and national security issues are among them. Follow them on social media. You can find out how to follow them on the elected official's websites.

Follow The American Legion's official social media accounts as well for up to date information. Repost The American Legion's legislative priorities on your social media. Remember, we're putting a face on legislative topics. We can share the human reality on how issues affect veterans and their families to a wide audience.

Include legislative priorities in unit communications (social media, newsletters). Draft letters and share them with your members to communicate the importance of legislation related to veterans, service members and their families.

Connect with other civic organizations to communicate The American Legion's legislative priorities for potential support and membership opportunities. By attending

local informational town hall meetings, you can become better informed and it creates the opportunity to network with these other community and civic organizations. Always wear the American Legion Auxiliary emblem so you are ALA branded!

Print the *ALA Legislative Advocacy Guide*, found at www.ALAforVeterans.org. Share copies with other members.

The American Legion's Legislative Center (www.legion.org/legislative) is a valuable resource. On this website, you will find information on the Legion Family's priorities through point papers and priority sheets (also referred to as drop sheets), as well as current legislative news.

Sign up to receive The American Legion's e-newsletters. Register to receive the Legislative Update and the *Dispatch* at www.legion.org/enewsletters.

Go to The American Legion's Legislative Action Center (<http://capwiz.com/legion/>). Here you can register for the Action Alerts.

Be ready to act when needed to ensure our veterans, active military and their family's issues are on the forefront and acted on appropriately.

Patti Coleman, 2019-2020 Legislative Chairman