

LEGISLATIVE

Nov/Dec 2019

The Legislative Program provides information and assistance to American Legion Auxiliary members to advocate for the legislative agenda of The American Legion.

Please remember to never express personal opinions when you are contacting elected officials/staff as you are advocating on behalf of the American Legion, not your own personal agenda.

Constituents relaying ideas to government officials is advocacy.

The American Legion provides us with the legislative agenda that we are to follow. This should be your guide as you advocate for our veterans, service members and their families.

Current information can be found at www.alaforveteran.org/Programs/Legislative and I will be keeping you informed via the Unit Mailings and social media.

We all must speak with one message. We need to be confident and informed on the subject matter, build relationships with our legislators and the staff, communicate effectively and report on our contacts made on the local, state and federal levels of government and the responses we have received from them.

We are a team, working together to advocate for veterans about program funding, healthcare, disability claims, education and employment, support for our troops and their families and promoting Americanism. Our elected officials need to know we are the American Legion Family, we are here watching, and we make a difference.

Subscribe to e-newsletters and monitor your legislator's website, check newspapers, attend town hall meetings, and send them invitations to noteworthy Legion Family events.

When you make contact, clearly identify yourself as a constituent, keep it short and concise, cite facts, be respectful and thank them for their time. You want it to be a positive experience to garner positive results whether now or in the future. Our veterans and enhancing their lives are what matters.

Are you connected to Facebook? Our National Legislative Committee sure is! On the second Monday of every month they will post a Monthly Monday Legislative Message providing the most recent information on legislation or "how to" tips, which you can in turn, share with your Facebook friends to reach a larger audience. Search for ALA Legislative and follow the page.

Patti Coleman, 2019-2020 Legislative Chairman

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