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

RESOURCES

* [www.ALAForVeterans.org](http://www.ALAForVeterans.org) this is the best website to use for all info and updates.

* Subscribe to the Legion’s Legislative Action Alerts to receive notification when they call on all Legion Family members to take immediate action on a topic. Visit [www.capwiz.com/legion/mlm/signup](http://www.capwiz.com/legion/mlm/signup) to subscribe. Report to your unit chairman when you have done so.

* Subscribe to the Legion’s Legislative Update to stay informed on veteran and military legislative issues. Report to your unit chairman when you have subscribed.

* Order a copy of the ALA Legislative Advocacy Guide through your unit or your department headquarters and follow the suggestions it contains to help build legislative awareness in your community. The guide can also be downloaded from [www.ALAForVeterans.org](http://www.ALAForVeterans.org).

* Visit the Legion’s legislative website, [www.legion.org/legislative](http://www.legion.org/legislative), to keep current on legislative priorities. The site also contains the Legion’s legislative priority sheets and point papers, available for download. The priority/drop sheets outline the Legion’s priorities and you can “drop” these in your elected official’s office.

UNIT

* Hold a unit meeting to go over the steps outlined by the ALA Legislative Advocacy Guide and discuss the legislative priorities.

* Invite a staff member of your U.S. representative and/or senator to a unit meeting so he/she can explain the best way to contact the official.

* Include legislative priorities in unit communications (social media, newsletters).

* Work with your Legion counterpart to make arrangements for Legion Family members to meet with respective Congressional delegation while on recess and in home districts.

* Choose a different legislative priority each month and allow time at each unit meeting for members to draft letters and communicate the importance of legislation related to veterans and their families. Watch for Legislative Action Alerts for any pressing priority.
* Invite your department chairman to a unit meeting to explain how the department initiates legislative advocacy and how each unit can play a role. * Work with your Legion Family to host a “Meet the Candidate” night. Make veterans/military issues the primary topic for discussion. (See the How To Sheet for details).

**Legislative Reporting**

**Mid-Year Reports** Mid-Year reports reflect the program work of units in the department, and are intended as an opportunity for mid-year correction. Each department Legislative chairman is required to submit a narrative report to the division Legislative chairman, plus copy the national Legislative chairman.

**Year-End Reports** Annual reports reflect the program work of units in the department, and may result in a national award for participants if award requirements are met. Each department Legislative chairman is required to submit a narrative report to the division Legislative chairman, plus copy the national Legislative chairman. Members and units should follow their department’s protocol and deadlines.

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

* How did you educate members in the legislative issues promoted by The American Legion and how did your members employ those methods?

* What legislative activities (town hall meetings, legislative receptions) did members attend in their communities and departments? What suggestions did members have to improve those activities? Please describe.

* How did members develop relationships with their elected officials? Please describe.

* Please describe how members were able to connect with their local and state officials and what their successes were.

**National Legislative Awards: Unit**

A citation presented to the Unit Chairman in each Division reporting the most outstanding overall Legislative Program. Entry must be typewritten in narrative form, not to exceed 500 words. Unit will submit entries to the Department Chairman no later than April 1st 2021.

**Department Awards**

HENAULT TROPHY: To the Unit in Department submitting the most outstanding Legislative Program. Reports must be in by April 1st 2021.

There will be handouts at all Dept. Conferences and meetings with more information on this program.