

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Legislative Guide Sheet 2025-26

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Legislative - Michigan

National Theme: From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free
Department Theme: We Don't Know Them All, But We Owe Them All

Program Goals

Be An Advocate - Be Informed - Be Engaged

Thank you for agreeing to be the Legislative chairperson for the ensuing program year. Our goal is to win friends and influence people to think of veterans and their families. "How does this bill improve the veteran's quality of life?" Your efforts to influence lawmakers is an important part of being an advocate for the United States Military and its veterans.

Remember, our organization began because the federal government made promises to provide for men who took up arms to fight in the Spanish American War in 1898 and WWI in 1917, and then reneged on those promises. Veterans converged on Washington DC to demand legislators uphold the promises to provide for the veterans.

Please familiarize yourself with the Priority Goals produced by the National Veterans of Foreign Wars. It is up to each of us to educate not just our membership, but our Post members, and our community as well. Contacting our legislators is how we influence people. Whether we are writing letters, emails, making telephone calls, and by talking one-on-one, we need to work towards equality for this unique group of individuals who put their lives on the line to protect and defend this country. Win Friends.

Priority Goals focus on:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| -Budget | -Education Employment and Transition Assistance |
| -Health Care | -Disability Assistance and Memorial Services |
| -Military Quality of Life | -National Security Foreign Affairs, and POW/MIA |

You can check the VFW website (www.vfw.org) or MALTA (www.vfwauxiliary.org) Member Resources for the current brochure. Keep copies of the brochure at your Post and display them on your membership tables. The goals are reviewed and renewed each year in February.

You can sign up for an electronic newsletter **VFW ACTION CORPS WEEKLY**. This will come to your personal email account with information regarding what is happening on Capitol Hill. Topics range from service member issues, national security, to updates on Missing in Action (MIA) personnel. Sign up at www.vfw.org and click on the advocacy tab and complete the simple registration. This newsletter is available to the general community. Encourage community members to register to keep up with activities in Washington DC.

The VFW AUXILIARY has a lot of resources that you can print and use in being a proactive advocate for veterans. Go to www.vfwauxiliary.org look in Malta - Member Resources - Legislative. You are encouraged to utilize the information in your effort to educate members of your post, auxiliary, and the community. Take pictures of your events with your displays. Take pictures of your face-to-face meetings with legislators. Influence people. Remember to send a thank you note to the representative/senator for taking time to meet with you and/or your group.

Make sure you report names of your face-to-face meetings with legislators. Send the pictures and descriptions of your efforts to win friends and influence lawmakers with your entry form for the national award for most outstanding legislative work. The entry form is available on MALTA under Member Resources. All documents must be sent to the department chair by March 31, 2026. Send copies of the program, invitation, pictures with your entry form explaining the program and results of the day.

Our national ambassador is reminding us to support the VFW-SVA Fellowship. It is an opportunity for student veterans to make their voices heard on Capitol Hill and in their community. For rules and eligibility, visit the VFW website at: <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support/student-fellowship>

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

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

Entry form required and available on MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2026, for judging. 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 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- Best outstanding activity and/or event collaborating with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers. Must send required National entry form to the Department Chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best Overall effort in contacting your legislators regarding veteran issues. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best Overall Legislative program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best promotion of promoting the VFW Priority Goals and the VFW ACTION CORPS WEEKLY in each membership category. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.



MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 -51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Auxiliary members contact their legislators on veteran's issues by any method. Report the number of emails, letters, phone calls and/or postcards. Please include the bill number and name of the bill.		
Auxiliary members attend events where opportunities to interact with their legislators like: town halls, meet and greet, coffee time, legislative conferences. Please include names and legislative positions. Give details of the event		
Promote, participate in and/or host or co-host the activities regarding the VFW Priority Goals with or without the VFW Post. Give details.		
Report the number of members who subscribed to the VFW Action Corps		
Promote engagement/use of VFW Action Corps Weekly		
Host activity and/or event collaborating with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers		
Sent a thank you note to your legislators for personal contact/meeting/participated in a community event held		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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