

Legislative Bulletin-October 2023

Thank you to all who have reported the past few months. It is great that you are reading the bulletins at your meetings. Remember, we are trying to influence the people in Lansing and Washington DC to make laws that help and benefit our military, past, present, and future.

- ★ Legislative work is reaching out to people who are in a position to make changes in the laws and influencing them to side with the veteran.
- ★ Veterans and family support is directly helping veterans with their needs.
- ★ Outreach is going into the community and doing work for other organizations that are NOT veteran based. (remember your auxiliary must vote on supporting this work before going there.)

Below are some bills before Congress that you can look up and send letters to Washington DC. This list is a partial list of bills that have been introduced in 2023. Go to [VFW Action Corps Weekly - VFW](#) on the right side you will see "find view current legislation". Click on the bill to see details.

[H.R. 1182: Veterans Serving Veterans Act of 2023](#) | 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

[H.R. 1267: Air Carrier Access Amendments Act of 2023](#) | 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

[H.R. 1278: DRIVE Act](#) | 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

[H.R. 1282: Major Richard Star Act](#) | 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

[H.R. 1530: Veterans Benefits Improvement Act](#) | 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

[H.R. 1639: VA Zero Suicide Demonstration Project Act of 2023](#) | 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

[H.R. 1763: Military Family Nutrition Act of 2023](#) | 2023-2024 Regular Session (118th)

In July, I posted on Facebook a challenge to find out how many members receive the Action Corps Weekly Legislative report from the National VFW. This newsletter is not just for veterans, nor just members. The VFW would like to have all parties, civilian, military, veterans subscribe to the newsletter. This is a good way to keep the people informed of what is happening at the national level. I challenged the auxiliaries to get ten percent (10%) of their membership to sign up for the Action Corps Report. Unfortunately we do not even have one percent (1%) of auxiliary members who are subscribed to this newsletter. Thank you to auxiliaries 6248, 4005, 3033, 4422, 2272, 9411, 9023, 6898, and 667 for reporting the number of members who currently receive Action Corps.

At the Fall Conference we learned about the Commanders Group and their legislative goals for the State of Michigan. Write to your state representatives in Lansing. Remember - one topic per letter. The goals include:

- A call to take new action on suicide among veterans and active duty personnel.
- PACT Act statewide awareness.
- Veterans cemetery in the upper peninsula.
- Maintain and expand the number of state veterans homes.
- Property Tax Exemption.
- Vietnam Veteran Bonus.

You can find the full report on the Department of Michigan VFW website under Programs - Legislative.

Loyally-Aileen Adragna
Department VFW Auxiliary Legislative Chair
10 Cardinal Hill, Orion, MI 48359
Email: aileenadragna@yahoo.com