



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Legislative Guide Sheet 2022-2023

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Legislative-Michigan

National Theme: Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care

Department Theme: Be the Anchor for Our Veterans, Hold Them Steady and Safe

PROGRAM GOALS

Be an Advocate

Be Informed

Be Engaged

The primary objective of the Legislative Program is to improve the lives of our veterans, service members and their families through advocacy. You are joining 1.5 million other VFW and Auxiliary members to influence lawmakers whose decisions affect veterans and their families every day. Join these comrades, brothers, and sisters in letting your voice ring out in legislators' offices this year.

The Priority Goals reflect the resolutions passed by the VFW to strengthen and ensure an adequate VA system for millions of current and future veterans. They call for much-needed attention to emergencies such as veteran homelessness and suicide. They request fully-funding research on traumatic brain injuries, reducing the claims backlog, fighting veteran unemployment, and improving timely transition assistance for veterans after leaving military service. This year's VFW Priority Goals focus on,

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

The VFW Priority Goals are enhanced by the *VFW Action Corps Weekly*, which feature pending VFW-supported legislation. It's free and full of news about what's happening on Capitol Hill, with veterans and service member issues and with our National Security. Therefore, please join us in supporting legislative efforts by supporting our Priority Goals outlined in the upcoming year by signing up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly. Please visit <https://votervoice.net/VFW/register/> to sign up.

Another key objective of the Legislative Program is proactive education and involvement regarding VFW Priority Goals. Please be sure to visit the VFW Auxiliary's National Website for an array of legislative tools: vfwauxiliary.org/resources/.

The Legislative Program is an important part of the mission of supportive service that the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary has developed and maintained for over a century. We help many with our efforts and you are appreciated for being a member of this worthwhile endeavor and wonderful organization. Therefore, sisters and brothers prepare to be the anchor for our Veterans so we may hold them steady and safe.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

Most outstanding consistent partnership and/or communication with young adult civic and/or political groups.

- Citation to every Auxiliary that maintains a consistent partnership and/or communication with young adult civic and/or political groups. Criteria and entry form (required) available at vfwauxiliary.org/resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2023. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding consistent partnership and/or communication with young adult civic and/or political groups. Winners will be announced and awards presented at the 2023 National Convention in Phoenix Arizona.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- ✓ Best overall consistent partnership and/or communication with young adult civic and/or political groups
\$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Legislative program in each membership category
\$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best overall VFW Priority Goals and Action Corps Weekly
\$10 and Citation of Merit to 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 utilized the Legislative material/resources available on the National VFW Auxiliary website.		
Report the number of Auxiliary members who are subscribed to VFW’s <i>Action Corps Weekly</i> E-Newsletter		
Promoted, participated and/or hosted activities regarding the VFW Priority Goals		
Auxiliary members contacted their legislators on veteran’s issues by any means (Report each contact.)		
Auxiliary members attended events where they could interact with legislators (Report each event.)		
Communicate pending legislation and legislative alerts		
Trained members on legislative process		
Encouraged “Vote in Honor of a Veteran” initiative		
Chairman attended a School of Instruction – Sunday 2022 Convention Training, District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Chairman attended their own District Meeting		
Reported every quarter		

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