



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
 Department of Maryland
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



December Mailing
 William Siperek

Be Informed



Be an Advocate



Be Engaged

Be Informed: VFW Priority Goals

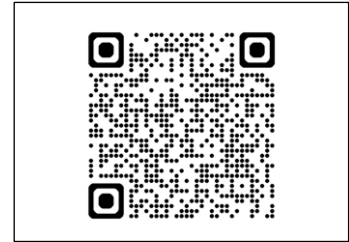
House Passes Dole Act:

The House Passes Dole Act: The Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act, H.R. 8371, passed in the House with a bipartisan vote of 389-9. This legislative package, known as the Dole Act, is being slated for a vote in the Senate. If signed into law, it would fund a range of enhancements vital to critical health care services for veterans and caregivers who need help now and cannot wait any longer.

Be An Advocate, Focus on Local Government by Partnering with you VFW Post

There are resources available to your Auxiliary at our legislative web page.
 Use this QR code to find them.

- [Auxiliary Legislative Tools and Resources](#)
- [VFW Auxiliary Involvement in Elections and Political Activities](#)
- [I Vote in Honor of a Veteran sticker Templates](#)
- [VFW Auxiliary Guide to the Legislative Process](#)
- [VFW Auxiliary Guide to Contacting Your Legislators](#)



www.vfwauxmd.org/

Be Engaged: Reminder for Legislative Chairmen



Please take time at your Auxiliar meeting to review some of the current legislative bills in congress. Find them on the VFW Action Corp page, here are a few examples:

H.R. 41: VA Same-Day Scheduling Act of 2023

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ensure that when a veteran enrolled in the VA health care system contacts the VA by telephone to schedule an appointment for care or services at a VA facility, the scheduling for the appointment occurs during that telephone call.

H.R. 196: Expediting Temporary Ratings for Veterans Act

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to modify its information technology systems to provide for the automatic processing of claims for temporary disability ratings for specified veterans (i.e., those who have a service-connected disability that requires hospital treatment or observation for a period in excess of 21 days). In providing for the automatic processing of claims, the VA must ensure that (1) medical evidence is obtained from its corporate data warehouse, (2) VA employees continue to determine eligibility for a temporary disability rating for the specified veterans, and (3) claims may be processed manually if the evidence of record is not sufficient to decide the claim or if the medical evidence is provided in an incompatible format