



Legislative



Be An Advocate * Be Informed * Be Engaged

As members of the VFW Auxiliary, we celebrate and appreciate the legislative victories that we, as an organization, helped bring about to better serve all veterans. Much has been accomplished, yet there is so much more to do this year. Please help the Department of Maryland's team Setting Sail for our Veterans.

One of the main objectives of the Legislative Program is to improve the lives of our veterans, service members and their families through advocacy. Your efforts, combined with nearly 1.5 million other VFW and Auxiliary members, can influence lawmakers whose decisions affect veterans and their families daily. Join the chorus of voices that will ring out in legislators' offices this year. Study the issues laid out clearly in the VFW Priority Goals. A copy can be found in MALTA under Member Resources.

The first important step is communicating the goals and available resources from the National Ambassadors to the Auxiliary chairmen. Then the chairmen will send reports of auxiliary events that support legislative goals. Finally, the participating auxiliaries will each get a certificate from National and the best report as judged by the department will be forwarded to National for judging.

It is very important to work with our Home Post on supporting legislative initiatives. The VFW Auxiliary and the VFW working together can make a more effective impact by working together. Share ideas and information about local programs and projects that support the VFW Priority Goals.

Reach out to your local elected officials and seek opportunities to advocate for our veterans. Knowledge is Power. Invite them to local VFW and Auxiliary sponsored events as it opens the doors to better communication and strengthens our advocacy efforts. The more they learn about the VFW Priority Goals and veteran issues, the stronger our voices become.



ADVOCATE FOR OUR VETERANS

- Become familiar with the VFW Priority Goals. They can be found on the VFW website. Make sure you share the information with the VFW and Auxiliary.
- Know where elected officials stand on veteran issues.
- Sign up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly and invite others to sign up as well. You can always print them out and take them to your auxiliary meetings and pass around and have the members initial them so that you know they have seen and read them.
- Respond to VFW Action Alerts - then spread the word for others to act.
- Get involved with town hall meetings.
- Be sure to vote in all elections.
- Use MALTA Resources, Legislative - then teach others what is available in MALTA Member Resources.

VOTING

Remember this is an election year. *Get out and Vote.* Ask members to get out and vote. Help them get to the polls if necessary.

DO NOT endorse any candidate on behalf of the VFW Auxiliary. We must always remain neutral.

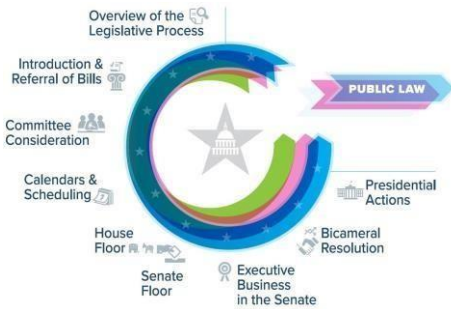
DO NOT wear any VFW Auxiliary attire when campaigning for a candidate.

Log into MALTA

- Member Resources
 - Legislative
 - Action Corp Weekly
 - Ambassador Presentation @ National Convention
 - Auxiliary Legislation Tools and Resources
 - Legislative Website
 - VFW Legislative Resources

**YOUR
VOTE
IS YOUR
VOICE**

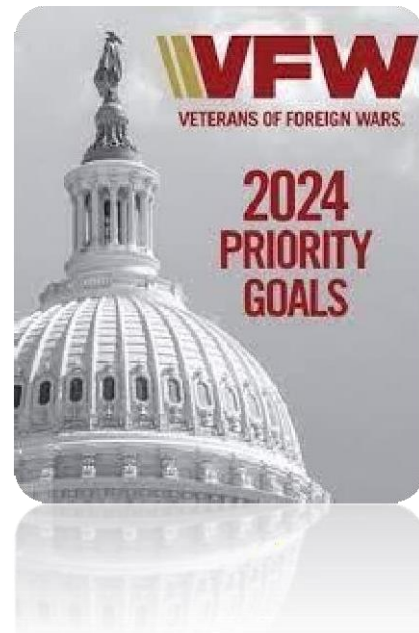
A Bill - Step-by-Step



To follow the progress of a bill through the stages of the legislative process, visit www.congress.gov, where you may find a specific bill by its number or by a key word or phrase.

VFW in Washington D.C.

One of the most crucial responsibilities for the VFW Washington, D.C. office is to actively lobby Congress and the administration on behalf of veterans. The office monitors all legislation affecting veterans and alerts the VFW and Auxiliary members about key legislation under consideration.



If you have questions, please contact me at:

William "Bill" Siperek

2546 Lodge Forest Drive

Baltimore, MD 21219

410-274-1323

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Legislative National Awards

AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

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 most outstanding activity and/or event that collaborated with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. The Department Legislative Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Legislative Ambassador by April 30, 2025 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 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.



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2024 - 2025 Report Form

William "Bill" Siperek, Department Chairman
2546 Lodge Forest Drive
Baltimore, MD 21219



410-274-1323 mdvfwaux.bills@gmail.com

Auxiliary _____ District _____ Month _____ Chairman _____

Reporting Period: From _____ To _____

This month - Hours _____ Projects Cost \$ _____ Mileage _____ Volunteers # _____

Did your Auxiliary promote, participate and/or host an activity regarding the VFW Priority Goals?

Yes No

Did your Auxiliary promote, participate and/or co-host with your Post an activity regarding the VFW Priority Goals?

Yes No

Number of contacts made by your members to legislators about veterans' issues:

Personal Contacts: # _____ Emails: # _____ Social Media: # _____

Letters/Postcards: # _____ Phone Calls: # _____

Number of your members who attended events where they could interact with legislators: # _____

(For example: town halls, meet and greets, legislative conferences, etc.) Briefly explain event:

Other Legislative projects or activities (Use additional sheet if necessary):