



# Legislative



## VFW Auxiliary Department of Maryland

*Our Legislative Program empowers us to advocate for policies that improve the lives of veterans, service members, and their families by turning our appreciation into meaningful legislative advocacy.*

Amy Jo Lett, National Ambassador



**Linda Eberhart**

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# 2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



Be An Advocate - Be Informed - Be Engaged



What is the Auxiliary's LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM promoting?

★ Promotes the VFW Priority Goals.

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.

★ Promotes the VFW Action Corps.

★ Encourages all citizens to exercise their right to vote and to contact legislators regarding issues impacting veterans and their families.



One of the **Main Objectives of the Legislative Program** is to improve the lives of our veterans, service members, and their families. This can be done through *Advocacy*. Our efforts can influence lawmakers whose decisions will affect our veterans and their families every day.

There are 6 areas of concern:

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



## Who are your Legislators?

Each state has 2 Senators serving 6-year terms with staggered elections. Maryland's Senators are:

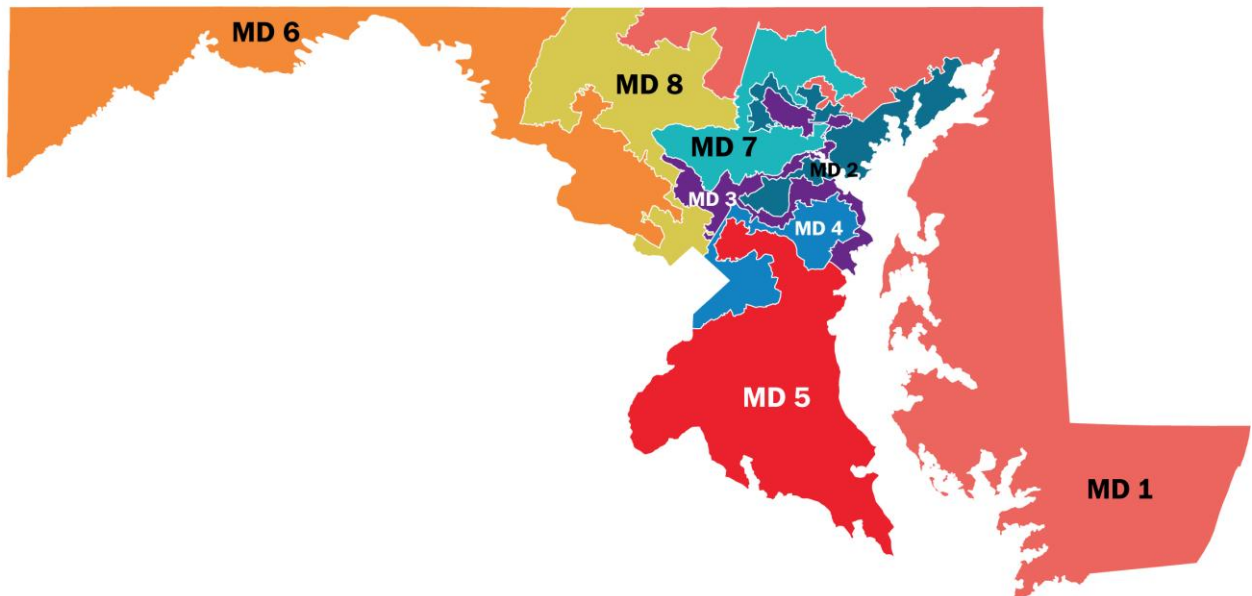
Chris Van Hollen  
202-224-4654

Angela Alsbrooks  
202-224-4524

The United States has 435 Congressional Districts each with a population of about 710,000. Each district elects a representative for a 2-year term to the House of Representatives. Maryland has 8 districts:

1 <sup>st</sup> District:	Andy Harris 202-225-5311
2 <sup>nd</sup> District:	Johnny Olszewski 202-225-3061
3 <sup>rd</sup> District:	Sarah Elfreth 202-225-4016
4 <sup>th</sup> District:	Glenn Ivey 202-225-8699
5 <sup>th</sup> District:	Steny Hoyer 202-225-4131
6 <sup>th</sup> District:	April McLain Delaney 202-225-2721
7 <sup>th</sup> District:	Kweisi Mfume 202-225-4741
8 <sup>th</sup> District:	Jamie Raskin 202-225-5341

## Maryland's congressional districts



Source: US Census Bureau

[WAPO.ST/WONKBLOG](http://WAPO.ST/WONKBLOG)

## Special Projects for Your Auxiliaries This Year to Report for the Legislative Program

### Thank you notes with Purpose

*\*The Legislative Program Award for 2025/2026 will be based on this event.*

Have a note writing campaign with handwritten letters to thank our veterans. Include the QR code or links that direct them to the VFW Action Corp Weekly sign-up page or to the Priority Goals.

<https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts/vfw-action-corps-weekly>

<https://www.vfw.org/legislativepriorities>

If we educate our veterans, we in turn will learn how we can all help.

### Legislative "Gratitude Days"

Set specific days of action for your Auxiliary to commit to contacting legislators with message of thanks, while also urging them to support the legislation that benefits veterans.

#### Use the resources found on Malta:

<https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org/Account/NewLogin?ReturnUrl=%2FDashboard>

#### To Identify your congressional representative:

<https://votervoice.net/VFW/address>

#### Contact your Legislators

[www.Govtrack.us/congress/members/MD](http://www.Govtrack.us/congress/members/MD)






#### Advocates for Veterans: Contact the DC Office


Vfw.org/advocacy Phone: 202-543-2239  
200 Maryland Ave NE Washington DC 20002

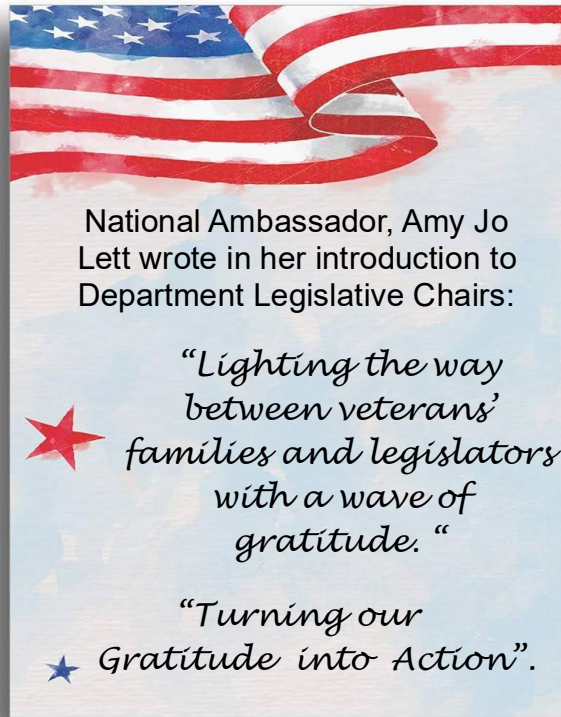


# Reporting

Proudly report the projects that qualify for the Legislative Program that benefit veterans and their families.

-  Use the standard report form provided for your convenience.
-  Report at least once this program year BUT monthly reporting will place your Auxiliary in the running for Department Awards at our 2026 Convention.
-  Simple projects that can be reported are short, informative presentations at your meetings during Program Reporting:
  - ✓ Explain the 2025 Priority Goals
  - ✓ Give any Action Corps Weekly updates
  - ✓ Urge members to make Action Alerts needing our support
-  Bonus points will be given for including your auxiliary number in the subject line when emailing your report.
-  Send your reports by email to: [Leberhart57@gmail.com](mailto:Leberhart57@gmail.com) or by postal mail to:

Linda Eberhart  
75 Fairground Avenue  
Taneytown, MD 21787
-  Call me at (410) 596-7990 with any questions that you may have. But when in doubt, report a project and I will credit you whenever it qualifies for the Legislative Program.



I am hopeful that together we can do just that  
by being - *A Force For Veterans.*

Lastly, I would like to introduce myself.

I am Linda Eberhart., this year's Legislative Program Chairman for the Department of Maryland. I am a member of the Monocacy Valley Memorial Auxiliary 6918 in Harney, Maryland. I have been a member since April 2016. I joined the VFW Auxiliary under my brother David Eberhart who proudly served as a Lieutenant in the Navy in the Tanker War phase of the Iran - Iraq War.

I was Junior Vice-President for 4 years and chaired the Youth Activities Committee. In 2023, I was elected as President and have held that office for the past two years serving again in the upcoming year as well. I am very proud to be part of this organization and hope that I have made a difference....and can continue to help our veterans.

In the past at my Auxiliary, I haven't been involved in the Legislative Program, so I know that there is a lot to learn. I am looking forward to hearing from you as you share your knowledge and suggestions in your reports.

Looking forward to a great year working together!

Linda Eberhart  
75 Fairground Avenue  
Taneytown, MD 21787  
410-596-7990



## Legislative Program 2025 - 2026 Report Form

Linda Eberhart, Department Chairman  
75 Fairground Avenue  
Taneytown, MD 21787  
410-596-7990 leberhart57@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):