

September Legislative Program Newsletter

Madeline “Maddie” Cunningham-Colston, Chairman

September is when election campaigns get into full swing: it’s a great time to call your local legislator’s office and offer to host a “**Meet The Candidate**” Night event that would be open to the public, as well as your members. It affords everyone a chance to express support for legislative actions that benefit veterans, active military and their families AND it promotes local community involvement in the legislative process (one of the goals of our National Legislative Ambassador, Kathy Voss). Be sure to have a copy of the **VFW Priority Goals** to hand to all officials, and include that in your report.

- Project Idea: If your Americanism Chairman and Legislative Chairman team up to jointly host such an event, they can split whatever work is involved, double the fun of doing it and double the reports, since an event like this should be reported under each Program. This is an election year, so *every* Auxiliary should be able to do at least one report (report on the number of members who voted) and be 100% for the Program!
- Project Idea: If your Scholarships Chairman and Legislative Chairman team up together, you can help high school students pursue the Voice of Democracy scholarship while educating them about the legislative process. This is a perfect time for students to learn how bills become law. Teaching them about how laws and federal appropriations can impact veterans, active service members and their families dovetails nicely with this year’s theme: “**Why My Vote Matters.**” Make sure you have lots of scholarship applications on hand, as well as copies of the “**VFW Auxiliary Guide to the Legislative Process.**” It was distributed in August – you can find it here: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Legislative-Guide-to-the-Legislative-Process.pdf>. Again, report the event under both
- Project Idea: Celebrate our right to vote by distributing “**I Vote In Honor Of A United States Veteran**” stickers to your members – there are two eye-catching designs available on the



Resources website, under the Legislative Program: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/resources/>.

Enjoy!

Maddie

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Legislative Program
Goals:

VFW Priority Goals
Local Legislative Involvement

VFW Action Corps Weekly
Student Education and Engagement