

Legislative Program Comments for January Council of Administration

- 1) **Action Alert:** The latest edition of the Auxiliary e-Magazine had an article about three pieces of legislation introduced last year that the VFW National Legislative Service was focused on – the article stated labeled them ‘legislative victories’ because the VFW testified at congressional hearings. The article then reads, “However, there has not been any substantial movement by Congress on any of these bills.” How many of you responded to the VFW Action Alert on Stopping the Claims Sharks? If not, *why* not? My December Legislative Program Promo tells you about the Alert – it’s the easy way to send an email urging passage of a law that will stop the claims sharks that’s already written for you to both Senators Alex Padilla and Laphonza Butler (appointed to fill Dianne Feinstein’s seat), and your Congressional Representative, and do it in 30 seconds or less, and then asks you to send me a report that you responded.
- 2) **March 5 Election in California: Remember there will be two times that you will vote for a candidate for the US Senate:** there are two elections for the seat being held at the same time: One to fill the seat from Election Day until the end of the current term on Dec. 31, and another for the new six-year term that will follow. Under California’s open primary system, they are all competing in the same March 5 primary, and the two top vote-getters, regardless of party, will advance to the general election in November to determine the winner. (Technically, voters will cast ballots in both primaries on March 5, and both general elections on Nov. 5. The same four candidates are leading the pack in both races.)
- 3) **2024 VFW Priority Goals Brochure:** Last year at National, I had a District Commander tell me that he didn’t understand why the Auxiliary had its own Programs that seemed to be different than the VFW’s and he actually wondered out loud if it was just some National Auxiliary President trying to make a name for herself. My January Legislative Program Promotion describes how our Programs align with the VFW Priority Goals – the annual statement of the initiatives the VFW is pursuing. In case anybody says the same thing to you, read it and then set them straight. You can download a copy of the Goals sheet and send it to your legislators – then send me a report on it.

The 2024 *VFW Priority Goals*, and my December and January Legislative Program Promotions are on the website.