Legislative Program July 2024 Promotional

Dear Auxiliary Members,

As we continue our mission to support our veterans and their families, it is crucial that we emphasize the importance of advocacy and legislative action. Our efforts in these areas directly impact the policies and resources available to those who have bravely served our nation.

Why Advocacy Matters:

Advocacy is not just a formality—it's a powerful tool that allows us to voice our concerns and ensure that our legislators are informed about the issues that affect veterans the most. By actively engaging in advocacy efforts, we can influence decisions that shape healthcare, benefits, education, and employment opportunities for veterans across the country.

National Veterans of Foreign Wars Legislative Priority Goals:

The National Veterans of Foreign Wars has identified key legislative priorities that require our collective support. Once I get those priority goals, they will be sent out to all of you. For now, we should continue focusing on the following:

- 1. **Healthcare:** Ensuring access to quality healthcare services for veterans, including mental health support.
- 2. **Benefits:** Protecting and enhancing benefits for veterans and their families, including disability compensation and pensions.
- 3. **Education:** Supporting educational opportunities and resources for veterans transitioning to civilian life.
- 4. **Employment:** Promoting programs that help veterans secure meaningful employment after their service.
- 5. **Quality of Life:** Advocating for policies that improve the overall quality of life for veterans and their families.

By aligning our efforts with these legislative priorities, we can make a significant impact on the lives of veterans both locally and nationally.

The Importance of Voting:

In addition to advocacy, voting is a fundamental way to ensure that our voices are heard. This year, as we approach elections, it is essential that we exercise our right to vote. By participating in the electoral process, we can elect leaders who prioritize veterans' issues and support legislation that benefits our community.

Get Involved:

I urge each of you to actively participate in our legislative program and advocacy efforts. Here's how you can get involved:

- **Stay Informed:** Follow updates from the National VFW and our CA Auxiliary on legislative priorities.
- Contact Legislators: Write letters, make phone calls, and meet with your elected officials to advocate for veterans' issues.
- **Spread Awareness:** Educate fellow members and the community about the importance of supporting veterans through legislative action.
- **Vote:** Make sure to register and vote in the upcoming elections. Your vote can make a difference!

Together, we can continue to honor the commitment and sacrifices of our veterans by advocating for the policies and resources they deserve. Thank you for your dedication to our mission and for standing with us in support of veterans.

Sincerely,

Joyce Bilyeu, Legislative Chairman Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Department of CA Jbilyeu42@gmail.com