

The Auxiliary National Objective this year is to “promote support of The American Legion priorities/agenda by American Legion Auxiliary members.”

In order to fulfill this mission, we have a few action steps to take together:

1. Get connected:

- Visit The American Legion website at <http://legion.org/legislative> to find the latest information. Legislative agendas, point papers and priority sheets are a few of the topics listed.
- Receive excellent and easy to understand updates by email by joining a subscription link to the Legislative Action Center at <http://capwiz.com/legion/mlm/signup/>

2. Distribute The American Legion's materials on legislative advocacy to members!

- Take a quick look at the *American Legion Auxiliary Legislative Advocacy Guide*. It can be found online here: <http://www.alaforveterans.org/Brochures/AdvocacyGuide-lp.pdf> It gives the fundamentals of contacting your officials.

Additional Resources:

a. ALA *e-News* – Sign up for email delivery at www.ALAforVeterans.org to receive this monthly newsletter.

b. *The Dispatch* is published 12 times a year to keep you informed on National Security/Foreign Relations, Economic and Legislative issues, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. Published by The American Legion. A 12-month subscription is \$15, or you can read it online at <http://www.legion.org/dispatch>.

c. Congress for Kids - Interactive, fun-filled experiences designed to help grades 4-12 learn about the foundation of our federal government and how its actions affect them. <http://www.congressforkids.net/index.htm>

d. Members of Congress can be found at www.senate.gov and www.house.gov.

e. Additional resources can be found at <http://www.legion.org/legislative/resources> and [ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org).

1. Know the Fundamentals:

Contact me if you would like a special presentation on the “How To’s” of legislative advocacy and tips on communicating with your representatives, or a program on the basics of the U. S. Constitution and the AL Oratorical Contest. Contact me at [<dbadeer@gmail.com>](mailto:dbadeer@gmail.com) or leave a message at 402-788-2569.

1. Plan now to attend the American Legion Legislative Day

at the State Capitol this year. (Details will come in the STAR and Newsletter, however this event is usually held in late January.)

**** Please bring Jr. Members along for a special “Capitol Adventure” including a personal tour, meeting officials, and live advocacy training right after the Legislative Day speakers!**

Be Ready to Respond Immediately to Action Alerts:

Action Alerts will be forwarded to you as soon as they are received from National. Please contact your officials as soon as possible when the alert comes out. (Thanks for the excellent responses given in the past!)

Then....Please send me the responses from Representatives that you have contacted regarding Veteran's issues. You may forward me email responses to [<dbadeer@gmail.com>](mailto:dbadeer@gmail.com) or send letters to

me at Deb Badeer, 20850 S. 134th St., Hickman, NE and I will forward them to the National Legislative Chairman. Thank you for being such a great team!

Legislative Awards

1. Unit Legislative Awards: A citation presented to the Unit Chairman in each Division reporting the most outstanding overall Legislative program. Each entry must be typewritten in narrative form, not to exceed 500 words. All entries must be sent to Deb Badeer, 20850 S. 134th St., Hickman, NE, 68372 by May 15th. Email entries are very acceptable! You are encouraged to include pictures and newspaper articles.

2. American Legion Legislative Awards:

A certificate of appreciation will be presented to those individuals in each Department who have made an outstanding contribution to the legislative program of The American Legion. Send nominations to Deb Badeer, 20850 S. 134th St., Hickman, NE, 68372 or email <dbadeer@gmail.com> by May 15. This is a great way to honor those members in your unit who faithfully contact their representatives on Veteran's issues!

CITATION POINTS—15 points assigned

- 5 pts...Unit or member signed up for "Dispatch"
- 5 pts...Unit devoted 10 minutes each meeting to Legislation
- 5 pts...for promoting a Senior Mentoring Program