

2017/2018 Legislative Program Bulletin

Kirk Harvey, 2018 Legislative Program Coordinator
P.O. Box 1730, Wilsonville, OR 97070

What is this program, and why do we have it?

The Legislative Program provides information and assistance to American Legion Auxiliary members to advocate for the legislative agenda of The American Legion.

The Legislative Program and the 2014-2019 ALA Centennial Strategic Plan:

While advocating for the legislative agenda of The American Legion, Auxiliary members raise awareness for our mission and increase brand loyalty.

What Can You Do?

1. Encourage and empower members to be more knowledgeable to take action on The American Legion's legislative priorities.

Legislative Awards Deadlines and Submission Requirements:

Taking the time to share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission is worth doing! It helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter. Just three simple steps to add your part to our national success story:

- 1) Please follow instructions as you fill out the National Report and Awards Cover Sheet found in the awards section of the Programs Action Plan.
- 2) Provide details/examples about the activity as outlined in the award's materials and guidelines section.
- 3) Submit as indicated in the Annual Supplement to the Programs Action Plan.

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

- How did you educate members in the legislative issues promoted by The American Legion and how did your members employ those methods?
- What legislative activities (town hall meetings, legislative receptions) did members attend in their communities and departments? What suggestions did members have to improve those activities? Please describe.
- How did members develop relationships with their elected officials? Please describe.
- Please describe how members were able to connect with their local and state officials and what were their successes.

National Report and Awards Cover Sheet, deadlines, and Legislative committee contact information may be found on the Legislative committee page on the national website, www.ALAforVeterans.org.

A. Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Legislative Program

- Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Legislative Program
- Deadline: May 15, 2018
- Send to Department of Oregon Headquarters before the deadline listed above
- Award: Citation Plaque
- Presented to: One unit in each division (5)
- Materials and Guidelines:
 - o Entries must be typewritten in narrative form.
 - o Include pictures and newspaper articles.

B. Department of Oregon Legislative Award

- To the Unit submitting the best supplemental report.
- Deadline: May 15, 2018
- Award: Certificate presented at Department Convention
- Materials and Guidelines:
 - o Entries should be typewritten in narrative form.
 - o Pictures and newspaper articles are not required but may be submitted.
- Submit entries to the Department of Oregon Headquarters

Additional Resources You Can Use:

1. www.ALAforVeterans.org on the Legislative program page:

- ALA Legislative Advocacy Guide
- How to Fill Out the Congressional Contact Form
 - How to Contact Legislators to Advocate for Veterans, Servicemembers and their Families

2. www.legion.org/legislative (The American Legion's Legislative Center):

- *Legislative Testimony Information*
- *Point Papers, Priority Sheets, Letters of Support*
- *Congressional Contact Report Form*

3. Facebook:

- ALA National Headquarters: www.facebook.com/ALAforVeterans
- The national Legislative Committee Facebook group, search "ALA National Legislative Group Page"

4. Your national Legislative committee members (see Legislative program page on the national website or Annual Supplement for contact information)