

Legislative
Department of Wisconsin 2009-2010
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Department Objectives

1. Objective: To increase the influence of the ALA on legislative offices in Wisconsin on specific issues and give unit members talking points and specific reasons to contact their legislators at least twice a year.

Action Steps

- a. The American Legion Auxiliary is a nonpartisan group.
- b. The American Legion Auxiliary supports The American Legions agenda.
- c. Write letters, send emails, faxes, and make phone calls to share your point of view with elected officials on legislative issues.
- d. Build working relationships with reliable and dedicated staff people in those offices.
- e. Ask legislators how they will vote on specific issues and ask for their response in writing. Return a thank you to legislators immediately after their votes are taken.
- f. Use technology to get the information out to the members of your unit and district. E-mails, Websites, Twitter, Face book and other forms.
- g. Provide your Capitol, Senate and House VA Committee members' office with a subscription of The Badger Legionnaire/Wisconsin and *HomeFront*.
- h. Sign up for the ALA Spirit of America eNewsletter.

2. Objective: To raise awareness of grassroots involvement by quarterly visits to local congressional offices when advocating for veterans issues/concerns.

Action Steps

- a. Form good relationships with local legislators by inviting them to address TAL, ALA, and S.A.L. functions.
- b. Most Congressional offices include: Chief of Staff, Director of the District or State Office, Appointment Secretary, Legislative Assistants, Committee/Subcommittee Staff, and Case/Project Workers.
- c. Contact your elected officials frequently and let them know your feelings/concerns on specific issues.
- d. Partner with other organizations that share similar interests and work together on issues related to veterans and/or military families.
- e. In conjunction with the Americanism Committee, inform your members to "Get Out and Vote." Pass on absentee ballot information to military families.