



***Honor Our Country,
Honor our Veterans!
Legislative Committee
250 Challenge.***



September 2025

Legislative Chairpersons and District Presidents,

Our Purpose: The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to provide information and assistance to American Legion Auxiliary members to advocate for the legislative agenda of The American Legion. *Standing Rule #5, National Committees – Mission Outreach*

In honor of Dept. President Sue's theme of Honor Our Country, Support Our Veterans we will have a **250 CHALLENGE** to Honor our Country's 250th birthday.

- Each District Chair will be encouraged to track contact by their district membership with local, state, and national officials on pertinent issues. Involve Unit and/or County chairs to assist in the tracking. A simple email from each unit or county is sufficient. This is not to become a burden for you! Suggest that after each monthly unit meeting the unit chairman report how many contacts have been made.
- Goal: achieve 250 contacts per district each quarter – personal emails, letters, phone calls personal visit ie: attending a council meeting, all count as a contact. Use of the emails on the Grassroots Action Center count also. (Currently there are 5 issues posted on the Action Center – sending to each would count as 5 contacts each day.)
- Bragging rights and awards will be presented quarterly.
- First reports due January 15, 2026, for Sept./October through December 31, 2025. Winners announced January 31, 2026.
- Second quarter results due April 15, 2026 for the months of January, February, and March 2026. Winners announced April 30, 2026.
- Third quarter results due July 10, 2026, with the winners announced at Department Convention. Months of activity include April, May and June 2026.

Other Activities to Support:

- Each District Chair is encouraged to submit an article for their District's monthly newsletter encouraging participation and other opportunities to have an influence for the good of our Veterans, Military and Communities. (I would like a copy of your article to include in my report.)
- Support and implement Get out the Vote activities. 2026 is an election year in our state. Also, think about hosting and/or attending a Meet the Candidates Night or similar activities. Those able might want to work at the polls in some capacity.
- Encourage members to sign up for their legislators weekly/monthly newsletters to remain abreast of current activities and to increase our influence as active participants in the political process. (see attached How To from wilegion.org.) Fill out the surveys and send comments regarding current issues – especially those affecting our military and veteran community.
- Obtain copy of current Blue Book for your reference – contact local representatives or senators to receive a free copy.
- Encourage members to join the National and Department Facebook pages for Legislative Ideas and updates.
- Subscribe to American Legion *Dispatch* email newsletter. Go to wilegion.org for more information and links.
- Participating in Veterans Day at the Capitol in April 2026. More information will be distributed as it becomes available.
- If you are interested in joining the Legislative Council to advocate for The American Legion Family's legislative priorities with members of Congress with whom you have personal relationships, reach out to your Department's Legion Legislative Council Vice Chair.

GOALS:

- Increase the number of units and members reporting activity.
- Increase in number of contacts – see Wisconsin Challenge
- Increase number of members joining the Grassroots Action Center
- Increase subscriptions to the *Dispatch*.
- 100% Units reporting.

While we advocate political action – Our organizations remain strictly non-partisan. We work with all appointed and elected officials regardless of political affiliation. DO NOT wear branded clothing or signs when participating in meetings, rallies or social media posts that imply an endorsement or leanings toward one party or another by the organization. We use our influence to foster action not candidates or party affiliation. Thank you.