



DEPARTMENT of PENNSYLVANIA

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
2017-2018 PROJECTS





LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

PURPOSE

To provide the Department Executive Committee with an annual **consolidated Legislative Committee activities report**;

To collect, into a single report, a comprehensive **compilation of all resolutions** adopted by the Department Convention and / or the Department Executive Committee which seek action by the Pennsylvania House and Senate or are a legislative policy statement of The American Legion Department of Pennsylvania;

To **update this compilation after each Department Executive Committee and Convention session** into a comprehensive summary of The American Legion's Department of Pennsylvania's legislative program;

To **assist other committees and their staffs** in representing The American Legion Department of Pennsylvania before the Pennsylvania House and Senate, and each committee thereof, on all legislative matters in which The American Legion Department of Pennsylvania is officially interested;

To assist, through its reports to the Department Executive Committee and its liaison with other Committees, in **the formulation of appropriate legislative actions** to be officially endorsed by resolution adopted by The American Legion Department of Pennsylvania;

Such other purposes as may be assigned to it by the Department Executive Committee.





LEGISLATIVE STRUCTURE



**UNITED STATES
SENATE
(100)**

**UNITED STATES
HOUSE
(435)**

**NATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS
STAFF
(4)**

**NATIONAL
LEGISLATIVE
COMMISSION
(535)**

**PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT
NATIONAL
LEGISLATIVE
COMMISSION
(20)**



**PENNSYLVANIA
SENATE
(50)**

**PENNSYLVANIA
HOUSE
(203)**

**DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS
STAFF**

**DEPARTMENT
LEGISLATIVE
COMMITTEE
(4)**

**DISTRICT
LEGISLATIVE
CHAIRPERSONS
(29)**



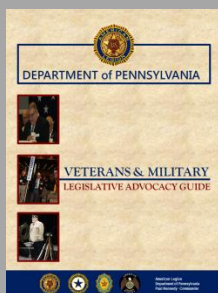


LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS

COMMUNICATION DATABASE



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY GUIDE



SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE



LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY



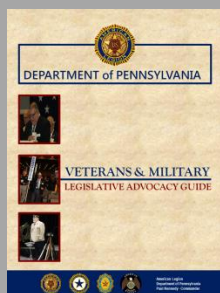
DEPARTMENT WEBSITE





A GUIDE FOR ADVOCACY

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY GUIDE



When the new Legislative Committee convened in August at Department Headquarters, there was a distinct sense that we had to **collectively develop a playbook or reference guide for our members** - so that they could become better informed of the various bills, resolutions and laws affecting our members.

While our initial focus was upon legislation directly impacting Pennsylvania Legionnaires, **our scope rapidly grew to include all veterans regardless of affiliation, the active military, and our extended families.**

We initially set out to better understand the legislative process, identify the diversified legislative committees, research key legislators at the national, state and local levels, and **create a common starting point for anyone wishing to research legislation or become more involved in advocating for veteran and military causes.**

Our research and learning experience resulted in the culmination of our first publication of a Department Legislative Advocacy Guide. **This undertaking is the first and only of its kind within the auspices of the American Legion.**

It is our plan that the guide will be **updated and published four times per year.** Once each prior to the three DEC's, and a final "report" version for annual convention. Our ultimate goal is that anyone concerned with our cause to help fellow veterans, military and their families may **be better informed and provided the tools and techniques in order to become a successful advocate for our cause.**





EDUCATIONAL TOOLS

The guide is structured to provide information on the following:

- ★ **An Overview of The American Legion**
- ★ **The American Legion and Legislative Advocacy**
- ★ **Legislative Issues Affecting the Legion Family**
- ★ **Department Leadership and the Legislative Committee**
- ★ **How to Use the Guide**
- ★ **Maps of Congressional, Senate and House of Representative Districts**
- ★ **Legion District Commanders and Adjutants**
- ★ **District Legislative Chairpersons**
- ★ **Pennsylvania Members of Congress**
- ★ **Pennsylvania State Senators**
- ★ **Pennsylvania State Representatives**
- ★ **Pennsylvania Committees and Chairpersons**
- ★ **House and Senate Bill Summaries**
- ★ **United States Congress Summaries**
- ★ **Comprehensive List of Resources**





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- ★ Past National Commander and National Legislative Commission Vice-Chairman **Ron Conley**
- ★ Department Headquarters staff **Sharon Delancy** and **Richelle Savant**
- ★ National Legislative Commission Member **John Tomosky**
- ★ 14th District Commander **Denise Harner**
- ★ Past Department Historian **Bob Coyle**
- ★ Past Detachment Sons of the American Legion Historian **Mike Kane**





NEXT STEPS

Initially, this large amount of information may seem overwhelming. We assure you that we have a plan to compartmentalize and break this down in order to effectively communicate at the Section, County, District and Post level. We understand not everyone may be technically savvy, and we are committed to engage every veteran possible.

We can field a high level question or two, but in respect of the DEC schedule, the Legislative Committee team will make ourselves available to meet with you directly to discuss any specific items you would like to discuss.

THANK YOU

