

LEGISLATIVE INTRODUCTION

October 2026

Hello, my name is Barbara Whitney, and I am a member of Floyd George Jefferson Unit 56 in Yuma. I am honored to serve as your 2026-2027 Department of Arizona Legislative Chairman.

I'm also very active in District 1, my Unit and Girls State. I look forward to working with all of you this year.

If you have any questions about the Legislative program, please contact me. My contact information is listed below and on the ALA Department website.

As Always, remember to vote, and don't forget to sign up for the Legion Grassroots on the National Legion webpage.

For God and Country, Service Not Self
Barbara Whitney
Legislative Chairman 2026-2027
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LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN — Why Legislative Matters in the ALA & How to Join Grassroots Advocacy

The American Legion Auxiliary was founded on service — service to veterans, military families, and our communities. One of the most meaningful ways we carry out that mission is through the Legislative Program. It isn't about politics, parties, or taking sides. It's about making sure the voices of veterans and their families are heard where decisions are made.

Every benefit our veterans receive today — health care, caregiver support, education, housing, mental health resources — exists because someone spoke up. Someone wrote a letter. Someone made a phone call. Someone cared enough to advocate.

That "someone" can be us.

Why Legislative Should Be Part of Your ALA Routine

When we participate in the Legislative Program, we strengthen the ALA's ability to support veterans. Here's why it matters:

- It honors our mission. Advocacy is part of the ALA's founding purpose. We serve veterans not only through hands-on projects, but by ensuring their needs are understood by lawmakers.
- It amplifies our impact. A single Auxiliary member contacting a legislator is powerful. A whole Unit or District doing it together is impossible to ignore.
- It keeps us informed. Legislative Alerts help us understand what issues affect veterans right now — and how we can help.
- It's easy and nonpartisan. We don't endorse candidates or parties. We support issues that directly affect veterans, service members, and their families.

When members participate regularly, our Department's voice becomes stronger, our reporting improves, and our veterans benefit.

What Is Grassroots Advocacy?

Grassroots Advocacy is the ALA's simple, effective system for staying informed and taking action. When you sign up, you receive Legislative Alerts directly from National. These alerts explain:

- What issue is being discussed
- Why it matters to veterans
- What action you can take
- Who to contact
- Sample wording you can use

It's quick, easy, and designed for busy members.

Most actions take less than 5 minutes — but they make a real difference.

How to Join Grassroots Advocacy

Joining is simple:

1. Visit ALA National's website (<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>)
2. Sign up for ALA Legislative Alerts

3. Check your email for confirmation

4. When an alert arrives, take action — even a short message helps

Why We Need YOU

Every member who joins Grassroots strengthens our Department's voice. When we report participation, it shows National that Arizona is active, engaged, and committed to supporting veterans beyond our local projects.

Your voice matters. Your service matters. Your advocacy matters.

Let's make Legislative a regular part of our ALA process — and show our veterans that we stand with them in every way we can.

Until next month,...

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