



Department of California

Legislative Program

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Are you acquainted with your elected officials? Do you know who they are? Do you know their views? The best way to become acquainted with a legislator is through frequent, polite contact. Writing letters, sending emails and faxes, and making phone calls are the easiest ways to contact them.

Here are some steps to building relationships with legislators:

- As legislative issues arise, contact your legislators to share the Legion Family's point of view. It is the responsibility of the ALA advocates to represent the position of the American Legion.
- Invite lawmakers to Legion Family noteworthy events
- Follow your legislators on social media
- Subscribe to your legislators e-newsletters, or visit their websites

Letter Writing:

- Type the letter
- Clearly Identify yourself
- Keep it short
- Be specific
- Cite facts: Do not be emotional or philosophical. Use justification gleaned from the American Legion's policy materials ([www.legion.org/legislative](http://www.legion.org/legislative)). Two or three short and specific facts are sufficient, too many can lose your reader.

The American Legion continues to support and protect all veterans and their families from claims sharks. Join us in telling Congress to support the GUARD Act.

Donna L. Smith Legislative Chair

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