



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS®**

**DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK**

**2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

**Ann Marie Hogancamp, Legislative Chair**

**[Veterans of Foreign Wars – Department of New York](#)**

69 Sand Creek Road

Albany, NY 12205

518-463-7427

## 2024 VFW DNY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS** - The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is an organization of U.S. war veterans who have fought in wars, campaigns, and expeditions on foreign lands, waters, or airspace. The VFW was founded to aid the rehabilitation of disabled and needy veterans, assist veterans' surviving families and the dependents of needy or disabled veterans, promote Americanism by means of education in patriotism, and by constructive service to local communities.

The VFW offers a wide range of assistance programs aimed at helping veterans of every generation. This includes providing free, professional help filing or appealing a Veterans Administration claim, offering scholarships for post-secondary education or providing emergency financial relief. There are 13 VFW districts in New York, comprised of hundreds of posts located in communities statewide.

The **2024 Legislative Priorities** of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of New York include the following:

- **\$125,000 for the VFW Chapter Field Service Operation** – The VFW Department of New York requests continuance of a \$125,000 annual appropriation for services and expenses of the VFW Chapter Field Service Operation. Accredited Veteran Service Officers help veterans navigate and access various benefits available on the federal, state, and local level.
- **Guard V.A. Act** - The VFW Department of New York requests introduction of legislation in New York to prohibit unethical conduct and improper fees by persons advising or assisting with veterans benefits. Similar legislation at the federal level is supported by the National Association of Attorneys General, including NYS Attorney General Leticia James.
- **Charitable Gaming** – The VFW's work in local communities is supported by fundraising, which includes the operation of various low stakes games – bingo, raffles, bell jar tickets/pull tabs, etc. The VFW Department of New York supports the following bills:

## 2024 VFW DNY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- A.4813 (Pretlow)/S.1959 (Addabbo) -To authorize electronic bell jar vending machines. Electronic dispensing devices for bell jar games (or similar electronic devices) are legal in 10 states, are extremely popular, and have yielded significant increases in charitable revenue.
- A.4814 (Pretlow)/S.6022 (Addabbo) – To ease certain restrictions on the conducting of games of chance and bingo for charitable purposes.
  
- **Women Veterans Centers** - Women veterans are the largest growing subgroup of veterans in New York State. The VFW Department of New York requests legislation to establish Women Veterans Centers around the State.

---

We are grateful for the Legislature’s ongoing support of the VFW Department of New York. Your support ensures that the important work of the VFW can be sustained in communities around the State.