



VFW Legislative Report

Federal Engagement – September 2026

Meetings with Delaware's Congressional Delegation in Washington, D.C.

During the VFW Fall Legislative Conference held September 13–17, 2026, in Washington, D.C., our delegation conducted direct outreach on Capitol Hill with Delaware's federal delegation. Meetings focused on the VFW's priority legislative goals, including protecting veterans' disability compensation from legislative offsets, expanding written informed consent for psychiatric medications, codifying TAP claims representation, and securing clean passage of the Major Richard Star Act without benefit reductions or caps.

Meeting with Senator Lisa Blunt Rochester

Date: Sep 16, 2026

Our delegation met with Senator Lisa Blunt Rochester at 9:30 AM to advocate for VFW national priority goals. Senator Blunt Rochester demonstrated strong alignment with our mission by cosponsoring the Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 2102 / S. 1032) to eliminate the concurrent receipt offset for Chapter 61 combat-injured veterans. She reaffirmed her commitment to backing VFW-supported community care reforms that preserve VA care without privatization, co-hosted the Delaware Congressional Delegation's Veterans Resource Fair, and actively engages with VSOs to ensure Delaware veterans maintain full access to mental health resources, housing, and earned benefits.

Meeting with Congresswoman Sarah McBride

Date: Sep 16, 2026

Our conversation with Congresswoman Sarah McBride at 10:40 AM focused on federal legislation impacting veterans and brain health care. Congresswoman McBride actively advances the VFW priority agenda as a cosponsor of the Major Richard Star Act. She has consistently voiced support for key VFW health and transition initiatives, including H.R. 2623 (Innovative Therapies Centers of Excellence Act) to advance alternative PTSD treatments, H.R.



1845 (TAP Promotion Act) to ensure accredited claims representation during transition, and legislation safeguarding veterans' disability compensation.

Meeting with Senator Chris Coons

Date: Sep 16, 2026

Held in Room 218 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 4:00 PM, our meeting with Senator Chris Coons covered the VFW federal legislative agenda. Senator Coons continues to stand with the VFW as a cosponsor of the Major Richard Star Act. His ongoing advocacy for the VFW mission includes supporting sustained VA healthcare funding, workforce retention, expanded VA healthcare access in Sussex County, and leading delegation initiatives like the annual Delaware Veterans Summit and joint Veterans Resource Fairs to connect veterans directly with earned resources.

Preparation for the VFW National Legislative Conference

The Delaware delegation participated in mandatory all-day training and briefings at the Crystal Gateway Marriott on Monday, September 14, covering legislative talking points, storytelling, and advocacy strategy. Capitol Hill visits took place on Wednesday, September 16, where meetings were held directly with elected officials and key staffers to push VFW national legislative priorities.

Legislative Committee Activities & State Updates

In addition to national advocacy efforts, the committee tracked key state-level legislative developments during the reporting period:

- **SB 219 Enactment:** Celebrated the formal signing into law of SB 219, a priority bill supported by the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs.



- **General Assembly Monitoring:** Monitored state legislative activities following the September 15 primary election in preparation for post-primary engagement.

National Reporting & Follow-up: Compiled and submitted monthly NLS advocacy reports to national leadership, continuing follow-up outreach with congressional offices on priority legislation.