

How to Connect with Legislators and Staff



1. Identify Your Representatives

Find your state legislators using the official California Legislature website:

→ [Find Your Legislator](#)

2. Locate and Engage with District Offices

Legislators' district offices serve as a great starting point to connect with both elected officials and their staff. Staff members are often the first point of contact and can help advance veterans' priorities.

→ [Find Assembly Members' Offices](#)

→ [Find Senate Members' Offices](#)

3. Make Your Voice Heard

- Call or Email: Introduce yourself and express your interest in veterans' issues. Even if the legislator isn't available, connecting with staff ensures your message reaches the right person.
- Meet with Staff Members: Legislative staff handle policy research, briefings, and recommendations. Educating them on veterans' concerns ensures that decision-makers receive accurate, veteran-focused insights.
- Invite Legislators and Staff to Events: Encourage them to attend veteran-related community events, briefings, or policy discussions. These events help build stronger connections and increase awareness of key veteran issues.
- Be a Trusted Resource: Offer expertise on veterans' matters and position yourself as someone legislators and their staff can rely on for guidance, information, and policy recommendations.

Grassroots Lobbying: How to Take Action

1. Stay Informed

Monitor legislation affecting veterans through these resources:

- [California State Commanders Veterans Council \(CSCVC\) – Take Action](#)
- [California Legislative Information – View Bills](#)

→ **Sign up for email alerts** to stay updated on bill progress, committee hearings, and policy changes.

2. Engage in the Legislative Process

- Submit letters of support or opposition for key bills being considered by the committee.
- Attend Committee Hearings (virtually or in person) and provide public testimony when possible.
- Contact Legislators & Their Staff Directly to express your views on specific bills.

→ **Watch live legislative hearings:**

- [Senate Hearings – Live | On-Demand](#)
- [Assembly Hearings – Live | On-Demand](#)

3. Use Social Media for Advocacy

- Share updates about veterans' legislation, policies, and committee hearings.
- Encourage others to take action by contacting their legislators.
- Follow legislators and their staff on social media to engage with their policy positions and stay updated on upcoming actions.

Conclusion

Advocacy plays a vital role in ensuring that veterans' needs remain a legislative priority. By engaging with legislators, connecting with their staff, and taking grassroots action, you can help shape policies that improve the lives of veterans across California. Your voice matters—get involved today!

Free Training Opportunity

If you'd like hands-on guidance navigating these advocacy tools or connecting with legislators, I'm happy to help! I offer **free Zoom training sessions** to assist veterans and advocates in mastering these processes. Whether you're new to legislative engagement or need a refresher, contact me at [sethr@water-warrior.com] to schedule a session. Let's work together to amplify your impact!