

MINUTES
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
MEETING OF
OCTOBER 4th, 2025, at 11:30 A.M.
VIRTUAL - TEAMS

1. Call to Order 11:30 A.M.
Department Chairman Heller opened the meeting of the Department Legislative Commission at 11:30 A.M.
2. Salute the colors – The Colors were not saluted due to virtual meeting
3. Invocation – Invocation was given by Suzette Heller Department Chairman
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Roll Call: Suzette Heller, Department Chairman

Members present:

William Billings, 1st District Chairman- PRESENT
Kurt Emans, 2nd District Chairman- PRESENT
Michael White, 3rd District Chairman- PRESENT
Steve Ervin, 4th District Chairman- NOT PRESENT
Gary Mitchell, 5th District Chairman- PRESENT
Christopher Miller, 6th District Chairman- PRESENT
Emmett Gregory, 7th District Chairman- NOT PRESENT
Jerry Collins, 8th District Chairman- EXCUSED
Gary Petrochello, 9th District Chairman- PRESENT
Robert Withrow, 10th District Chairman- PRESENT
Richard Smathers, 11th District Chairman- NOT PRESENT
Suzette Heller, Department Chairman- PRESENT
Bert Boyd Sr, 13th District Chairman- PRESENT
Jacob Marx, 14th District Chairman- NOT PRESENT

Guests Present:

Jacob Brault, Legislative & National Security Coordinator

6. Approval of previous minutes

Michael White 3rd District Chairman motions, seconded by Chris Miller 6th District Chairman to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

MOTION PASSED

7. Unfinished Business-

NONE

8. New Business –

- a. Legislator of the Year- Discussed legislator of the Year nominees (Steve Demetriou and Jim Hoops) and explained as to why each of them would be a fitting candidate to receive the award.

Michael White 3rd District Chairman motioned seconded by Chris Miller 6th District Chairman to accept State Representative Steve Demetrieou as the Legislator of the Year.

MOTION PASSED

b. TRULIEVE CANNABIS-

Coordinator Brault gave the Commission information on Trulieve Cannabis and past initiatives they have conducted with the DAV for information purposes only.

Department Chair Heller requests to speak to Jenny Camper and see if she can come on a call to see how VSO's can partner with her organization to assist Veterans with Mental Health treatments.

Chris Miller, 6th District Chairman noted Cannabis is a better initiative for younger Veterans than medication the older generation of younger veterans and may be something worth while to look into for the future.

- c. S.B.92- 100% Property Tax Relief for Disabled Veterans.** Has not had any hearings in months and would like to have hearings or traction to make substantial change that will impact veterans for the better.

William Billings 1st District Chairman motioned, seconded by Kurt Emans, 2nd District Chairman that the American Legion Department of Ohio will start a grass roots Movement on social media or by other means to reach out to Senator Blessings office to request that SB 92 have a hearing on the 100% homestead property tax exemption for disabled veterans.

MOTION PASSED

9. Good of the Legion –

NONE

10. Benediction – 1st District Chairman William Billings gave the Benediction.

11. Adjourned- Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.