



## The American Legion Department of Ohio Legislator of the Year Award

### 1. Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a current member of the United States Congress or the State of Ohio General Assembly or was a member of the United States Congress or Ohio General Assembly at the time of application.

### 2. Alignment with American Legion Preamble Principles:

- Demonstrated commitment to Americanism, including promoting patriotism and responsible citizenship.
- Efforts to maintain a strong national defense.
- Dedication to the rehabilitation and care of all veterans.
- Active in programs that benefit the youth of America.
- Commitment to fostering a sense of community and mutual support among citizens.

### 3. Legislative Achievements:

- Sponsored or co-sponsored legislation that significantly benefits veterans, military personnel, and/or their families. Which supports American values, freedom, and democracy.

### 4. Community Impact:

- Evidence of positive impact on local communities, especially in areas that resonate with the American Legion's mission and programs.

### 5. Nomination Process:

- Nominations can be made by American Legion posts through their Districts then submitted to the Department Legislative Commission for review.
- A detailed submission outlining the nominee's qualifications and contributions, with specific examples, is required. i.e. suggested, 1-2 pages

### 6. Selection Criteria:

- The Legislative Commission will select from the nominations one (1) Member of Congress and one (1) member of the Ohio General Assembly.
- The selection will be based on the extent to which the nominee's actions reflect the American Legion's preamble and overall impact.
- The Legislative Commission will make this recommendation to the Department Executive Committee each year at the December meeting for presentation in the following year.

### 7. Award Presentations

- The award for a member of Congress will be presented in Washington D.C., during the Washington Conference.

- The award for the Legislator of the Ohio General Assembly will be presented at the Ohio State House.
- Should neither of the above locations be an option, the awards may be presented to either recipient within their District or at an American Legion Department of Ohio Convention or Conference.
- The presentation might include a plaque or certificate, along with a press release to local and national media, the Ohio Legion News, and video if appropriate, to ensure appropriate recognition.

#### **8. Additional Considerations:**

- The award should be non-partisan, focusing solely on the achievements and impact related to the American Legion's values.
- Consider establishing a recurring schedule for the award, such as annual, to maintain its prestige and relevance.

This framework aims to ensure that the award is meaningful, aligning closely with the values and objectives of the American Legion while honoring significant legislative contributions.

#### **DEADLINE:**

- \*Post Legislator of the Year nominations need to be forwarded to your District Legislative Chairman by August 1st.
- \*District Legislator of the Year selections need to be returned to Department no later than September 15th.