



AMERICAN LEGION

Department of Illinois

Legislative Commission

Fall Call-in

10-4-2020

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM with all five commission members present. Presentation of Colors, the Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Prayer were performed in due order.

The #100Milesforhope program was discussed. Participation by all Posts is encouraged.

Chairman Nargelenas gave the upcoming Illinois Legislature session calendar:

November 11-19 Veto Session

December 1-3 Veto Session

102nd Legislative Session starts in January

Since this is a new session, all pending bills will need to be reintroduced for the new 2 year session.

The current proposed tax Amendment was discussed and it was decided that we should remain neutral as to any recommendation and we encourage all voters to read the amendment carefully before voting.

It has been reported that a diagnosis of COVID-19 on a VA death certificate has led to denial of benefits to veterans dependents. Since any information we have is not confirmed it was decided to write the American Legion's VA representative to determine if it is true so that we may address it through legislation.

It has also been noted that intake into VA homes has been stopped due to the COVID-19 epidemic. It was decided that there needs to be an intake procedure that would allow those waiting to be taken into the home in a manner that would protect those veterans as well as those already living in the homes.

The MOH Highway resolution the committee adopted last year will be given to headquarters for formatting onto the appropriate resolution form. We will investigate this and make a decision later.

The commission discussed putting out a Legislative Commission Newsletter, based on a format used by the Military Veterans Coalition of Indiana, it would be a condensed version of our report to headquarters, listing goals and abbreviated legislation descriptions. We will

Department Commander Weber and Sr. Vice Commander Fischer visited the meeting, where Commander Weber said we should remind all Legionnaires about the Legion Insurance Trust

Free insurance program available to paid members and that if a Legionnaires membership lapses that they need to reapply for the benefit.

This year the Commanders special project is a Disaster Relief Program that will be used exclusively in the State of Illinois.

The meeting was closed in due form at 12 PM.