



## NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICE REPORT FORM

**Department:** Rhode Island

**Month:** October 2023

**Committee Member Name:** Matthew Baldwin McCoy

### **Report:**

1. Copies of the 2023 VFW Priority Goals Brochure and September 2023 Edition of VFW Talking Points were provided to the Department of Rhode Island Council of Administration. These were discussed briefly at the Department Council of Administration meeting held at VFW Post 10011 on Saturday, October 28, 2023.

2. On Monday, October 30, 2023, I participated in a Zoom meeting with VFW National Legislative Service leadership and other NLC members on a new VFW-led initiative to have legislation passed and enacted at the state level that is similar in purpose to the VA GUARD Benefits Act of 2023. VFWRI is fully onboard with this initiative and have begun local efforts to get the draft legislation introduced into the Rhode Island General Assembly when they reconvene in January 2024. VFWRI will be coordinating with the United Veterans Council of Rhode Island (UVCRI), the Rhode Island Office of Veterans Services (RIOVS), and the Rhode Island Attorney General's office.

3. Due to scheduling conflicts, I am currently working to reschedule State Commander Rachael Garcia's introductory meetings with Senator Whitehouse and Representative Magaziner. Meetings will be at their District offices.

Very respectfully,

Matthew Baldwin McCoy

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