



## A NOTE FROM MICAELA

It's a cliché at this point, but what a long, challenging year it has been. I know we were all hoping a simple flip of the calendar to 2021 would brighten our days and bring our nation together.



January 6 made it terribly clear how far we have to go to heal our divisions.

Despite the microscope you and your PACs have been under during the last few months, our industry, along with the companies, trade associations, and employees we represent, are committed to bridging ideological gaps.

I hope you've been listening to our **Facts About PACs** podcast and following our social media ([Twitter here](#) and [LinkedIn here](#)). This past quarter, we shared a lot of research demonstrating how business PACs facilitate bipartisanship. According to Brigham Young University's Dr. Michael Barber, for example, limits on PAC campaign contributions actually increase political polarization because "individual donors tend to be more ideological than PACs." Dr. Barber recently was a guest on the podcast.

We also have engaged proactively with members of the media to discuss how, even before the events of January 6, PACs had strong giving criteria to ensure contributions reflect a company culture and public policy priorities.

This quarter we completed a survey of members asking about the events of January 6 and actions taken after them. We found that:

- 67% of all respondents said their PAC established a pause in making some or all contributions.
- Of those who paused, 51% suspended contributions to all candidates while 32% paused only to those who voted against certifying the Electoral College results.
- Nearly half (47%) of those who paused said they would be doing so for the first quarter of 2021 only.
- 80% of respondents said they have no plans to expand into other methods of political giving.
- PACs are beginning to resume normal operations. Thirty-one percent said they have already started their annual solicitation campaigns. The majority of the remainder intend to do so between now and September.

As we repeatedly say, business PACs continuously evaluate their political contributions to ensure the lawmakers they support share their values and goals. These thoughtful processes allow employees to continue to engage in the political process using their collective voice.

We will continue to argue employee and member-funded association PACs are one of the most transparent ways to provide monetary support to candidates. As you know well, the FEC strictly regulates business PACs and all donations must be reported and made public. Business PAC funding is also very limited. Individuals may only contribute \$5,000 annually to employee- and member-funded PACs and this limit has been in place since 1974. And while \$5,000 is the limit, the average contribution is well below that amount, less than \$400 in fact.

These are the **Facts About PACs** and, now more than ever, we must share them.

According to the [Edelman Trust Barometer](#), business is the only institution now perceived as being both ethical and competent enough to solve the world's problems. With our commitment to bipartisanship and transparency, and the trust of the American people, we must—and will—continue to play a role in restoring democratic norms and healing our divisions as we move into the second quarter.



## JOIN OUR FIGHT

NABPAC is working to build our cadre of business PAC champions. Text **NABPAC** to **52886** now to add your voice as we continue to defend and support the business PAC community.

## PAC AND LEGAL HOTLINES



Both the PAC and Legal hotlines have been ringing off the hook since the first of the year! If you have not yet had an opportunity to take advantage of our hotline services and expertise, please email [nabpac@nabpac.org](mailto:nabpac@nabpac.org) to get your questions answered. NABPAC is grateful to have Carol Laham, partner at Wiley Rein, LLC, and Amie Adams, president of Dunn Associates, available to our members to answer your most challenging questions or to explore new ideas.

Use of both hotlines is included with your annual membership. We look forward to assisting you!



## NABPAC WELCOMES 18 NEW MEMBERS!

Please join us in welcoming the members who joined NABPAC in the first quarter of 2021. We are thrilled to welcome each organization to the NABPAC family of over 250 organizations and growing!

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|---|---------------------|
| ▪ Association of Equipment Manufacturers    | ▪ Beekeeper         |
| ▪ Booz Allen Hamilton                       | ▪ Biogen            |
| ▪ Medicaid Health Plans of America          | ▪ GR Pro            |
| ▪ Greenwich Biosciences                     | ▪ Lincoln Financial |
| ▪ Julie Schrei Solutions, LLC               | ▪ Bayer             |
| ▪ American Veterinary Medical Association   | ▪ Finseca           |
| ▪ Transportation Intermediaries Association | ▪ Ryan, LLC         |
| ▪ Mass Mutual                               | ▪ Humana            |
| ▪ Medicaid Health Plans of America          | ▪ Red Curve         |

We are a stronger organization with these new members and are thrilled that we continue to grow as an organization, especially in these challenging times. If you know of a business organization that is interested in standing up for the business PAC community and would benefit from NABPAC's services, please contact Micaela Isler at [Micaela.isler@nabpac.org](mailto:Micaela.isler@nabpac.org).



## FACTS ABOUT PACS PODCAST TURNS ONE!

The Facts About PACs podcast is celebrating big as we celebrate our first birthday in April. We have produced 40 episodes over the course of the year, which kept members and our wider community informed as we navigated unprecedented times.

Thank you for your loyal support as we took this experiment and ran with it. Special thanks to executive producer Adam Belmar at the Advocacy Content Kitchen for making our podcast a reality.

If you are interested in being a guest or serving as a sponsor, please contact [Micaela.isler@nabpac.org](mailto:Micaela.isler@nabpac.org). sponsor, please contact [Micaela.isler@nabpac.org](mailto:Micaela.isler@nabpac.org).



## 2021 MEMBERSHIP DUES

The 2021 membership dues invoices were sent out November 1, 2020. Included with the invoice was our W9. Please be sure your accounting records are updated with our new office address, which is included on the invoice and the W9. Special thanks to so many of you who have already sent in payment for 2021.

If you don't recall receiving your 2021 invoice, please email us at [nabpac@nabpac.org](mailto:nabpac@nabpac.org) and we will resend it to you right away. We could not do all that we do without each one of you as members, so thank you for your continued trust in us!

STAY CONNECTED WITH US

