PAMPAC
The Physicians’ Voice in Politics

MISSION

PAMPAC, through its political and educational endeavors, strengthens the voice of physicians in the political arena.

VISION

• PAMPAC members actively participate in the political process by supporting pro-physician candidates for elected office.
• PAMPAC disseminates unbiased information on current political issues and candidates for elected office and conducts other political activities of an informative and impartial nature.
• PAMPAC participates actively in election campaigns of pro-physician candidates by soliciting money for political purposes, making contributions to and expenditures on behalf of candidates for nomination or election to public office, and any other election activities permitted by law and regulation.
• PAMPAC assists physicians and Alliance members in organizing themselves for more effective political action.
• PAMPAC is recognized in the political arena as the representative for all physicians, regardless of specialty or stage in career.

Invest in our future, together we are stronger!

More specifically, the focus of the PAMPAC Board is to recruit members from among our fellow PAMED and Alliance members and use those contributions to strategically support viable candidates. PAMPAC is committed to supporting candidates that are aligned with PAMED policies based on their policy positions and past voting records. It is also important for PAMPAC supported candidates to be accessible to the physician community so that PAMED representatives will have the opportunity to discuss our views and concerns on key issues to physicians and patients in Pennsylvania.

Until 2016, the past several years have been a time of transition and improvement for PAMPAC. During this time, PAMPAC began to reverse a downward trend in membership and had hired its first full-time Executive Director. However, securing sufficient financial contributions to allow PAMPAC to provide appropriate support for deserving candidates continues to be our most significant challenge.

Data detailing the current status of PAMPAC membership and collected revenues for 2015 and 2016 reflects a short term trend that will hopefully be reversed in 2017. Year to date we have seen a decrease in PAMPAC membership of 217 members. There remain a significant number of 2015 contributors that have not joined this year and the retention of these donors will be
critical to growth in total PAMPAC membership this year. It is our hope that many of these individuals will renew their 2016 membership at this year’s House of Delegates meeting in Hershey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Commonwealth Club $1,000</th>
<th>Capitol $500</th>
<th>Keystone $300</th>
<th>Total PAMPAC Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 (full year)</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>641</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 (full year)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 (9/30/2016)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>453</td>
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Since the 2009 House of Delegates, these words in amended resolution 09-408: “That PAMPAC be applauded for re-affirming its policy to carefully scrutinize political leaders’ voting record/scorecards prior to distributing PAC funds to qualified candidates” have been a continuing standard for PAMPAC candidate contribution decisions. It is important that PAMPAC contributors, whether they are members of the House of Delegates or not, know that they remain as the standard for the PAMPAC Board.

**2016 Election Preview**

PAMPAC supported candidates across the Commonwealth repeatedly emerged as the winners in key races during the May 2016 primary election.

**Congress**

Even with what has been characterized as one of the most unusual presidential elections in U.S. history dominating the media, the contest for the U.S. Senate in Pennsylvania is one of a handful that will decide which party controls the U.S. Senate next year. Katie McGinty (D) is challenging incumbent U.S. Senator Pat Toomey (R) in the general election. AMPAC and PAMPAC announced their support for Sen. Toomey.

Philadelphia Congressman Chaka Fattah (D – 2nd District) was the only incumbent who lost in the primary election and he will almost certainly be replaced by current State Rep. Dwight Evans (D). In the general election, Congressman Bill Shuster (R–9th District) has a rematch with Art Halvorson, who lost the GOP primary but simultaneously secured the Democratic nomination. AMPAC and PAMPAC are supporting Shuster.

The two open PA congressional seats are also key races in the eyes of state and national political party leaders. State Rep. Steve Santarsiero (D) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R) are separated by a thin margin in the 8th district (Bucks & Montgomery) while Christina Hartman (D) and State Sen. Lloyd Smucker (R) are waging a battle to win the 16th district (Berks, Chester & Lancaster). AMPAC and PAMPAC are supporting Fitzpatrick and Smucker. Those seats are now held by Mike Fitzpatrick (R–8th) and Joe Pitts (R–16th).

**State Senate**

Like their counterparts in the House of Representatives, Senate Republicans have a commanding majority, outnumbering Democrats by a 31-19 margin. This year’s primary election stage was set early when three senators announced their plans to retire, with a fourth, Sen. John Wozniak, making his decision to “hang it up” shortly after he won his primary. Interestingly, four
incumbent Democrat senators successfully fought off primary challengers while Republicans battled over four open seats. No incumbent Republican was challenged.

PAMPAC engaged in two of the four open Republican primaries, throwing support to Scott Martin (Lancaster) and State Rep. Mike Regan (Cumberland), both whom sailed to victory.

In the November general election, thirteen senators are running unopposed, with only a few expected to have formidable opponents. While it is always difficult to predict whether the Senate Republicans will maintain their existing majority, a number of political pundits expect the GOP to pick up another seat.

State House

With the balance of power in the House of Representatives currently favoring Republicans by a 119-84 margin, it’s safe to say that the chamber will remain in Republican control next legislative session. This year, 15 members of the House of Representatives—8 Republicans and 7 Democrats—announced that they would not seek re-election. Of those retiring from the House, two are seeking other elected offices, with Rep. Steve Santarsiero (D-Bucks) running for Congress and Rep. Mike Regan (R-Cumberland) looking to relocate across the rotunda to replace retiring State Sen. Pat Vance.

This year’s primary election saw 164 lawmakers running unchallenged while four saw the end of their legislative careers. Turning to the November general election, 98 of the House’s 203 members will not face opposition, with 51 Republicans and 47 Democrats getting a “free ride.”

PAMPAC Success

In the current 2015-2016 election cycle, PAMPAC contributed nearly $200,000 to legislative candidates.

2016 Election Activities

In addition to direct financial support, PAMPAC often engages in election outreach by encouraging PAMPAC member physicians and their family and friends to vote for specific legislative candidates. This activity typically involves targeted letters and other direct mail that informs physicians why PAMPAC favors a particular candidate and is most often executed to help an identified incumbent candidate. As in the past, PAMPAC will be engaged this fall in this level of political advocacy.

New PAMPAC Officers & Board Members

The PAMPAC Board met by conference call in December 2015 and elected the following officers and board members for 2016. The custom is to provide for continuity during the two-year election cycle.

Chair John Wright, MD
Vice Chair Timothy Welby, MD
Asst. Treasurer Jennifer Lewis, MD
Secretary    Donna Rovito
Executive Comm.  Bruce MacLeod, MD
Executive Comm.  Robert Richards, Jr., MD

At-Large:

Joanne Bergquist (Alliance – Westmoreland)
Bruce MacLeod, MD (Allegheny)
Peter Daloni, MD (Mercer)
Jim Thomas, MD (Montgomery)
Jaan Sidorov, MD (Dauphin)
Michael DellaVecchia, MD (Philadelphia)

Later in 2015, John Pagan, MD and Aaron George, DO were both elected to fill at-large vacancies on the board. The PAMPAC Board will once again meet in December of this year to elect officers for 2017.

House of Delegates PAMPAC Reception

In recognition of PAMPAC members attending the Medical Society’s House of Delegates, we will once again host the popular PAMPAC reception on Friday night, Oct. 21. As in previous years, we will open the second hour of the event to all delegates and emphasize the importance of joining PAMPAC to those who are not yet 2016 members.

In Appreciation

John Wright, MD, Theodore Christopher, MD, Michael Abdul-Malek, MD, Ameila Pare, MD, and Alliance representative Donna Rovito will conclude their service on the PAMPAC Board in 2016. Their collective talent, time, insight and thoughtful contributions will be missed.
2016 PAMPAC Board of Directors

*Member of the PAMPAC Executive Committee

First District  Theodore A. Christopher, MD
Second District  Mark Lopatin, MD
Third District  Timothy Welby, MD*  .................Vice Chair
Fourth District  Cathleen Woomert, DO
Fifth District  Robert N. Richards, Jr., MD*
Sixth District  Neil A. Kaneshiki, MD
Seventh District  Carmen Spinney, MD
Eighth District  Michael E. Abdul-Malak, MD
Ninth District  Erick Bergquist, MD, PhD
Tenth District  John C. Wright, Jr., MD*...............Chair
Eleventh District  Jennifer Lewis, MD* ..................Assistant Treasurer
Twelfth District  Burdett R. Porter, MD
Thirteenth District  Brahma Sharma, MD

At-Large  Mrs. Joanne Bergquist
At-Large  Peter Daloni, MD
At-Large  Michael DellaVecchia, MD
At-Large  Aaron George, DO
At-Large  John Goldman, MD
At-Large  Bruce MacLeod, MD*
At-Large  Philip Mandato, MD
At-Large  John Pagan, MD
At-Large  Amelia A. Pare, MD
At-Large  Ralph Schmeltz, MD
At-Large  Jaan Sidorov, MD
At-Large  Alexis Smith, DO
At-Large  James Thomas, MD

Student  Leanne Woiewodski
Resident  Hans Zuckerman, DO

Alliance  Mrs. Cynthia Richards
Alliance  Mrs. Donna Baver Rovito* .................Secretary
Alliance  Mrs. Caryl Schmitz

PAMPAC Staff  Ms. Katie Thiemann .........................Director
PAMPAC Staff  Ms. Janet Minnier .........................Treasurer