



THE FRATERNITY AND SORORITY POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE



MARCH 2006



PAC's FIRST YEAR SUCCESSFUL \$122,000 Contributed to 75 House and Senate Candidates

Dear Fraternity & Sorority PAC Donor, Leadership and commitment are two of the key attributes that describe Greek men and women. Less than a year ago we started the Fraternity and Sorority PAC to help elect policy-makers who support the continued prosperity of the fraternal movement. You responded to our call!

You should be proud of being a key reason that our first year was successful. We support existing Greek leaders in Congress and others in Washington who believe in protecting the health and safety of college students, as well as their rights of free association. We have achieved all of our goals for our first year of operation, and the momentum is building for a great second year.

In 2005, we raised over \$210,000 to support our friends while keeping our expenses below 18 cents on the dollar. We aid candidates who support our goals—regardless of their political affiliation—and that is the reason for much of our success. Sustaining Greek life as the development pipeline for tomorrow's leaders is not a conservative issue or a liberal issue. We all have a common interest

in helping the Greek college students who are our legacy and the bright hope for America's future.

Thank you for being a part of our first year. We want to count on you again in 2006. We have started an annual membership drive and we hope you will maintain your support of our efforts. **Renewing at last year's contribution level would be of great help, but any contribution will be appreciated.** We want to show support in both dollars and number of supporters.

Enjoy the newsletter and see for yourself the success you helped create. Then make your decision to renew your support with a 2006 donation to the largest PAC that focuses solely on higher education issues in Washington. If you like the results of your 2005 investment in the PAC, please make another contribution this year. Thanks again for your continued support.



Interfraternally,
Kevin O'Neill
President
(757) 207-6002
kmone1@aol.com

PAC NEW YORK CELEBRATION

Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA/Tau Epsilon Phi) was the PAC's special guest at our December 8 fundraiser at the Cornell Club in New York City. He met with Greek students from area universities and addressed a large gathering of Greek alumni at our event. Senator Santorum mentioned how important his Greek undergraduate experience was to his development as a leader and spoke of the critical role Greeks continue to play on campuses nationwide today. Fraternity & Sorority PAC appreciates Senator Santorum for his leadership on issues of importance to our members.



THE PAC'S STATUS TO DATE

Raised \$210,195 in just nine months of operation

352 contributors nationwide

\$500,000 goal before July 1, 2006

Contributed a total of \$122,000 to 75 House and Senate candidates in 2005

Finance Committee comprised of leaders from more than 30 fraternities and sororities

THANK YOU LOYAL SUPPORTERS

The Fraternity & Sorority PAC is off to an outstanding start and is helping to advance the Greek experience in a number of ways. We hope to raise \$290,000 in 2006 to reach our goal of \$500,000 for our initial election cycle. In order to succeed, we need to broaden the scope of our donor base across the country and expand our total number of donors from 350 in 2005 to a total of approximately 750 for the 2005-06 election cycle, meaning we hope to find 400 new donors in 2006. Of course, we also hope to have a very high percentage of our 2005 contributors renew their support of the PAC with another contribution in 2006.

It is very helpful to the PAC if national fraternity and sorority leaders are visible donors to the PAC, preferably at an annual giving level of \$250 or more.

These leaders have the ability to influence others to contribute and therefore their participation is crucial, especially as these leaders will be the key to directing the PAC to potential \$5,000 and \$1,000 donors.

Donors who are giving the PAC at least \$250 a year are personally invested in our success. They are more likely to follow up their contributions with personal contacts with lawmakers, either on their own or at our request—contacts that can be used to further advance the Greek policy agenda. If Fraternity & Sorority PAC can establish itself this election cycle and diversify its donor base significantly, it will be a long-term advocate for the election of policymakers who support Greek life. If we fail, it will only be because we have not convinced enough leaders of our movement to be invested and engaged in our efforts.

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Distributing PAC Proceeds to Political Candidates

The PAC's Board of Directors meets regularly to approve contributions to individual candidates. By law, the PAC is allowed to contribute up to \$10,000 total to the election campaign of a single federal candidate (\$5,000 for the primary campaign and \$5,000 for the general election). The PAC is bipartisan in distributing funding and has developed a set of criteria that it uses in evaluating which candidates to contribute to and how much to give.

To date, the PAC has distributed funds to 75 candidates and attended fundraising events for those individuals as part of our contribution. Contribution amounts have ranged from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

The PAC has distributed approximately 74% of its funding to date to Republican candidates. This funding breakdown reflects four facts: (1) Republicans control both chambers of Congress; (2) More than twice as many Greeks in Congress are Republican than Democrat; (3) most of the PAC's donors to date who list a political affiliation are Republican; and (4) Republicans are currently more supportive of the PAC's policy objectives.

The PAC contributes to Greeks and non-Greeks. Candidates must have demonstrated a record of support for Greek policy causes or be involved with committees with jurisdiction over issues of concern to Greeks. For Senate candidates, we focus more of our attention on supporting candidates who are up for reelection in 2006, as opposed to those candidates who are not running again until 2008 or 2010. To date, the PAC has provided funding only to incumbent candidates for the House and Senate or House members seeking to move to the Senate.

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO THE FRATERNITY AND SORORITY PAC

**Contributions can be made payable
 to Fraternity & Sorority PAC,
 P.O. Box 50731, Washington, DC 20091-0731.**

Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, address, occupation and name of employer of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. The maximum an individual may contribute is \$5,000 per calendar year. Corporations, foreign nationals without green cards, and minors under age 18 are prohibited from contributing.

*Paid for by Fraternity & Sorority PAC,
 P. O. Box 50731, Washington, DC 20091-0731.
 Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.*

Upcoming PAC Events

April 24 College Park, Md.
August 21 Atlanta
TBD Los Angeles
TBD Philadelphia

For information on attending one of these events, please call (757) 207-6002 or send an e-mail to kmone1@aol.com.



THE FRATERNITY AND SORORITY POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

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Special thanks and acknowledgment to our friends in Greek-related businesses who are leading donors to the PAC, including Cindy Stellhorn, Ned Kirklín, Richard Jungman, Patrick Alderdice, and Barbara Bromberg.

UPDATE ON THE COLLEGIATE HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACT (CHIA)

As of March 1, 2006, this bill has 95 House sponsors and 17 Senate sponsors. Greek leaders have been engaged in a nationwide grassroots campaign since last July to write their members of Congress and secure new sponsors for this bill. The grassroots campaign is a success with 43 new sponsors in the House and five new sponsors in the Senate.

CHARITABLE GIVING AND CHIA

CHIA is also part of the pending 2005 Charitable Giving Act of 2005 (H.R. 3908) in the House; this is the same bill that passed the House in 2003 by an overwhelming margin. CHIA was part of the House-passed Charitable Giving Act in 2003 but did not become law because the bill failed to pass the Senate. CHIA is **not** part of the pending CARE Act in the Senate (S.1780), which is the Senate's version of a comprehensive charitable giving bill, because CHIA was not part of the bill that passed the Senate in 2003. *We anticipate there will be some legislative activity in early 2006 surrounding these charitable giving bills and they present the best opportunity for CHIA to become law before the end of this Congress.*

Update on the Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act

Congress continues to work on passage of the Higher Education Act and may take it up in the spring of 2006. Some elements of the Act, including financial aid issues, were handled in a fall 2005 package of legislation aimed mainly at Hurricane Katrina relief.

Update on Higher Education Leaders in Congress

In February, John Boehner (R-OH) was elected House Majority Leader, beating out Congressman Roy Blunt (R-MO/Kappa Alpha) and Congressman John Shadegg (R-AZ/Sigma Alpha Epsilon). Congressman Boehner had been the Chairman of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, which has jurisdiction over most higher education issues.

The new Chairman of the House Education and the Workforce Committee is Congressman Buck McKeon (R-CA), who was the former Chairman of the subcommittee that oversaw higher education issues. The new subcommittee Chairman for higher education issues in the House is Congressman Ric Keller (R-FL).

COMING IN SUMMER 2006

Our next issue of the PAC newsletter will focus on the candidates the PAC is endorsing for reelection in November 2006.