

# THE FRATERNITY AND SORORITY POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE



JANUARY 2009

## 135 GREEKS IN CONGRESS Thanks to Your Support

**W**e want to update you on the success of the Fraternity and Sorority PAC during this election season. Your support for our PAC helped a number of Greek candidates win reelection to the House and the Senate. In addition, we helped support a number of first-time candidates who won their races and will be freshman members of the 111th Congress sworn in on January 6, 2009. We expect to open the next Congress with approximately 135 Greeks in Congress.

The PAC invested your contributions in a selective mix of candidates who were highly successful in winning during a very turbulent election cycle.

- The PAC spent \$223,000 in support of 107 candidates for federal office this election cycle.
- 87% of the candidates we supported (93 of the 107) won their election.
- 85% of the money the PAC spent was contributed to candidates who won their respective elections.

Greeks in Congress continue to break down by about 60-40 Republican to Democrat, but the PAC was truly bipartisan in its support.

- 52% of the PAC's candidate funding went to Republicans and 48% to Democrats this election cycle.
- The PAC supported 57 Democrats and 50 Republicans in this election.
- 93% of the Democrats we supported won their election and 80% of the Republicans we supported won.

Our PAC contributions helped many vulnerable Greek incumbents win close reelections.

- 23 of the 32 vulnerable Greeks the PAC funded won in a very rough election cycle.
- In the Senate, we actively supported Mary Landrieu (D-LA/ $\Delta\Gamma$ ), Saxby Chambliss (R-GA/ $\Sigma\chi$ ), Mitch McConnell (R-KY/ $\Phi\kappa\tau$ ), and Roger Wicker (R-MS/ $\Sigma\eta$ ), all of whom won highly contested and expensive races this fall.
- In the House, we provided support for Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV/ $\kappa\kappa\Gamma$ ), Charlie Dent (R-PA/ $\Phi\kappa\psi$ ),

*(Continued on page 4)*

## CHIA Sponsorship at All-time High in 2008 Stimulus Bill on the Horizon

**O**ne of the key Greek issues in Congress is passage of the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act (H.R. 643/S68), which would allow our organizations to modernize and expand our stock of student housing by permitting tax-deductible, charitable contributions to foundations to be used for grants to local house corporations. CHIA made good progress in 2008 as the number of sponsors rose to an all-time high of 210 in the House and 40 in the Senate.

During the fall, our leaders in Washington lobbied hard to add CHIA to several pending large tax bills moving through Congress. While we ultimately fell short of that goal, our Congressional supporters had a number of critical conversations that increased our bill's long-term chances of becoming law.

In early 2009, Congress is expected to pass a massive stimulus bill to help our ailing economy. A number of provisions will be

aimed at changing the tax code to promote economic activity. We are working with our Congressional supporters to try to attach CHIA to the stimulus bill, especially since there is strong evidence that college students are being disproportionately harmed by the effects of the economic downturn. We strongly encourage you to contact your elected officials and ask them to push for CHIA to be included in the stimulus.

We would like to give special recognition to Congresswoman Shelley Berkley (D-NV/ $\Delta Z$ ), who has stepped in to become the bill's lead sponsor since the tragic death last summer of Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH/ $\Delta\Sigma\Theta$ ). Other leaders playing key roles in moving CHIA forward include:

- House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD/ $\Sigma\chi$ )
- Congressman Paul Ryan (R-WI/ $\Delta T\Delta$ )
- Congressman Jim McCrery (R-LA/ $\Sigma\eta$ )
- Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD/ $\Pi\kappa\Phi$ )
- Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS/ $\Pi\kappa\alpha$ )
- Congressman Pete Sessions (R-TX/ $\Pi\kappa\alpha$ )

## WHY WE GAVE TO THE PAC

*"We both understand that a successful future for the fraternity and sorority community requires more than wishing it so! Supporting the Fraternity and Sorority Political Action Committee is doing our part to encourage elected officials to support legislation which will sustain and preserve our organizations for future generations. We are committed to doing whatever it takes to perpetuate the fraternal experience that has been such an important part of our lives."*

— BOB AND DONNA CHERECK



Donna, who attended the University of Texas, is the immediate past national president of Alpha Chi Omega. She has served on the Alpha Chi Omega Foundation, as well as numerous boards in the Dallas area.

Bob is the Dallas regional president of Wells Fargo. He has chaired numerous boards in the Dallas area and serves as the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. Bob attended the University of Texas and is a member of Delta Tau Delta.

Bob and Donna reside in Dallas, Texas.



*"I am a donor to the Fraternity and Sorority PAC and have been since its inception. My business experience indicates that political and financial support of members of Congress and Congressional candidates demonstrates that you are serious about your advocacy of issues.*

*You have to give to be taken seriously in Washington. I am an active political donor and my fraternity, Kappa Alpha Order, is one of my longtime priorities for volunteer time and charitable giving. These two priorities dovetail nicely and result in my support of the PAC. I hope that others will give to support this worthy interfraternal effort."*

— BILL DREYER, KA ORDER

Bill, who lives in San Antonio, Texas, enjoyed a long career with Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. He was president of the company's Kansas Division, group president of Southwestern Bell Corporation, and was responsible for overseeing all of SBC's international subsidiaries and several national branches, as well. Bill retired as executive vice president of SBC.

### Thank You, Cindy and Jeff Stellhorn!

The Fraternity and Sorority PAC wants to thank and recognize Cindy Stellhorn, KAΘ, for being the PAC's largest contributor to date. Her contribution of \$15,000 demonstrates her belief in the PAC and her firm commitment to help get CHIA passed. Thank you, Cindy!

### SAVE THE DATE

Annual PAC Dinner  
 Tuesday, April 21, 2009  
 6:30 p.m.  
 Washington, DC

## MEMBERS OF CONGRESS EXPRESS THANKS



*"I am so grateful to have had the support of the Fraternity and Sorority Political Action Committee in my reelection race, and delighted that the people of Louisiana have once again chosen me to represent them in the United States Senate. I look forward to serving the state of Louisiana and working with the Fraternity and Sorority PAC on important issues in the next Congress."*

— SENATOR MARY LANDRIEU (D-LA/ΔΓ)

### New Greek Members of Congress

#### SENATE

Jim Risch (R-ID/ΦΔΘ)

#### HOUSE

Mark Schauer (D-MI/TKE)

Frank Kratovil (D-MD/ΦΔΘ)

Marcia Fudge (D-OH/ΔΣΘ)

Chris Lee (R-NY/ΨΥ)

Tom Rooney (R-FL/ΛΧΑ)

*"I appreciate the support of the members of the Fraternity and Sorority PAC during my tough re-election campaign this year. I faced a difficult challenge from a well financed opponent who had the support from some of West Virginia's most powerful political leaders, and I could not have overcome these obstacles without the assistance of dedicated fraternity and sorority alumni like all of you who are committed to good government and continuing the traditions of your organization."*

— CONGRESSWOMAN SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO (R-WV/KΚΓ)



Be sure to visit our web site at [www.fratpac.org](http://www.fratpac.org) to contribute and learn more about the PAC.

# GREEK WORLD MOURNS THE LOSS OF CONGRESSWOMAN STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

The Greek world suffered a great loss when Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH/ $\Delta\Sigma\Theta$ ) passed away on August 20 from a brain aneurysm. A unique leader with a strong moral compass, Stephanie was a woman of firsts:

- The first African-American woman elected to Congress from Ohio
- The first African-American woman to serve on the House Ways and Means Committee, the powerful committee with jurisdiction over taxes, trade, healthcare and entitlements
- One of the first African-American women to chair a committee of the United States Congress
- The first Democratic chairman of the Congressional Fraternal Caucus

In 1998, Stephanie won the Democratic nomination to represent much of Cleveland. During her five terms in Congress, she served as a co-chairman of the Democratic National Committee, was platform chairman at the 2004 Democratic National Convention, and won the appointment to the coveted Ways and Means Committee. In 2007, when Democrats took control of Congress, Stephanie was named chairman of the House Ethics Committee and was a leader in efforts to improve the standards of conduct for federally elected officials.



Stephanie had a degree in social work from a small college and graduated from the Case Western Reserve Law School. As an alumna initiate of Delta Sigma Theta, there was no prouder Greek in Congress. She often noted that she owed much to her sorority sisters, who played a strong role in each election she won.

Stephanie was a centerpiece of our efforts to build a policy agenda to preserve and improve the Greek experience for students nationwide. She was the lead Democratic sponsor of the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act in the House and was tireless in advancing our cause.

Stephanie loved when Greeks came to town each April and she would get a chance to serve in her role as co-chairman of the Congressional Fraternal Caucus. She and Congressman Pete Sessions (R-TX/PKA) would take turns as master of ceremonies of our Congressional Greek Receptions, introducing Greek members of Congress and helping us honor them each year.

We could always count on her Greek spirit as she sang a Delta song or cheered the crowd to show more enthusiasm. Stephanie always made time to talk with students about their needs, future, and obligation to be involved citizens. She never stopped asking what Congress could do to make the Greek student experience better in the future.

Stephanie also made time to speak at the Fraternity & Sorority PAC Congressional Dinner in April 2007 and 2008. This year, she cut short her role of hosting a reception for Senator Clinton's Presidential campaign to speak at our dinner. Being the good Greek she was, she brought other Greek members of Congress with her to enjoy our event.

*Stephanie was a centerpiece  
of our efforts to build a policy agenda  
to preserve and improve the Greek  
experience for students nationwide.*

During Senator Hillary Clinton's speech at the Democratic convention, the Senator recognized Stephanie's life, saying, in part, "Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones—a dear friend to many of us, a loving mother and courageous leader, who never gave up her quest to make America fairer and smarter, stronger and better. Steadfast in her beliefs, a fighter of uncommon grace, she was an inspiration to me and to us all."

Stephanie will be missed, but her spirit, determination, and leadership will never be forgotten.

## Fundraising Rankings for Finance Committee Members

As of December 8, 2008

Jim Estes/Larry Wiese, KA Order - \$29,125  
 Ted Grossnickle/Kevin O'Neill,  $\Lambda X A$  - \$28,250  
 Patrick Alderdice,  $\Delta X$  - \$23,825  
 Cindy Stellhorn/Laurie Connor,  $KA\Theta$  - \$19,520  
 Julie Burkhard,  $AX\Omega$  - \$18,050  
 Doug Carlson,  $\Sigma X$  - \$15,300  
 Ken File/Jim Host,  $\Delta T \Delta$  - \$15,000  
 Bill LaForge,  $\Pi KA$  - \$14,450  
 James Owens,  $\Sigma N$  - \$13,775  
 Other Greeks - \$12,605  
 Alan Woody,  $\Pi K \Phi$  - \$12,523  
 Marc & Dana Katz,  $AE\Phi$  - \$10,911  
 Elisse Freeman,  $A\Delta\Pi$  - \$10,900  
 Sarah Lindsay,  $\Delta\Delta\Delta$  - \$10,250  
 Mike Scarborough,  $\Sigma AE$  - \$9,050  
 Melanie Shain/Kelly Bingel,  $X\Omega$  - \$7,975  
 Vicki Nixon,  $\Delta\Gamma$  - \$7,720  
 Jerry Wanek,  $\Phi\Gamma\Delta$  - \$7,600  
 Marian Williams/Pris Gerde,  $KK\Gamma$  - \$7,500  
 Frankie Nordlund,  $AO\Pi$  - \$7,375  
 Corey Mathews,  $TKE$  - \$7,125  
 Betty Quick,  $\Gamma\Phi B$  - \$6,305  
 Ryan Brennan/Craig Casselberry,  $\Sigma\Phi E$  - \$4,875  
 Deb Ensor/Shannon Finley,  $ZTA$  - \$3,300  
 Kris Bridges,  $\Phi M$  - \$3,200  
 Dan Backer/Dave Russell,  $Z\Psi$  - \$2,945  
 Liana Wallace,  $A\Gamma\Delta$  - \$2,725  
 Julie Johnson,  $K\Delta$  - \$2,650  
 Wynn Smiley,  $AT\Omega$  - \$2,250  
 Sheri O'Connell,  $A\Xi\Delta$  - \$2,100  
 Susan Zabriskie,  $A\Phi$  - \$1,795  
 Gwen Mellor,  $\Pi B\Phi$  - \$1,700  
 Jim Blazer,  $\Phi K\Psi$  - \$1,525  
 Scott Wiley/Ed Rodriguez,  $\Delta\Sigma\Phi$  - \$1,500  
 Amy Krouse,  $\Sigma\Delta T$  - \$1,298  
 Cindy Menges,  $\Delta Z$  - \$775  
 Bernie Schulz,  $A\Sigma\Phi$  - \$750  
 Bob Roberts,  $\Phi\Delta\Theta$  - \$350  
 Justin Kirk,  $\Delta Y$  - \$125

# PAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## THE FRATERNITY AND SORORITY POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

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## 135 GREEKS IN CONGRESS

*(Continued from page 1)*

Jim Gerlach (R-PA/ΣΧ), Kristin Gillibrand (D-NY/ΚΚΓ), and Harry Mitchell (D-AZ/ΑΤΩ). They each won close races in November.

The PAC's assistance was part of electing several new Senators and Representatives.

- We supported one Greek who won his race for the Senate, former Governor Jim Risch (R-ID/ΦΔΘ), whose wife remains active in her own chapter of Alpha Chi Omega.
- We aided three Greeks who will be freshman members of the House in January:
  - Marcia Fudge (D-OH/ΔΣΘ)
  - Chris Lee (R-NY/ΨΥ)
  - Tom Rooney (R-FL/ΛΧΑ)
- The PAC contributed to Mark Udall (D-CO) and Mark Warner (D-VA), successful Democratic candidates for the Senate who represent states where national fraternities and sororities are headquartered.
- The PAC supported a number of other Greek House candidates who came close to winning their initial races for Congress.

- Marcia Fudge is someone special for the PAC to keep an eye on. She served as the first chief of staff for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones and is now taking the place of her political mentor.
- Representative-elect Fudge is also the former national president of ΔΣΘ and we believe she joins Ed Pease (R-IN/ΠΙΚΑ) as the only former national presidents of a Greek organization to be elected to Congress.

A complete list of supported candidates can be found on our Web site at [www.fratpac.org](http://www.fratpac.org) or by accessing publicly available records at [www.fec.gov](http://www.fec.gov).

With the economic crisis hitting college campuses nationwide this year, we expect that the PAC's efforts in the next Congress will expand to include giving a strong voice to the need for federal legislation that keeps college an affordable part of the American dream. We must invest in creating a well-educated workforce, but that education can't be so expensive as to mortgage the future of our next generation of leaders.

We truly appreciate your support of the PAC and our unique mission. We have helped elect Senators and Representatives who have a record of helping college students in general and fraternity and sorority students in particular. We have high hopes that these elected officials will continue to look for ways to help us sustain the Greek way of life for future generations of college students. Your investment in the PAC this cycle was critical to our success, and we hope you will consider renewing your support for the 2010 election cycle and will spread the word to your fraternal friends.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Wiese, KA Order  
President-Elect



Julie Burkhard, AXΩ  
Vice President

