



## POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE POLICY & GUIDELINES

Adopted May 12, 2021; Revised July 13, 2022

### Purpose

To establish an Political Action Committee (PAC) that is representative of EAA membership by appointing as PAC members representatives of dues-paying EAA members who have expressed an interest in political action and have volunteered to serve to represent their fellow members.

The Board of Governors (BOG) establishes the Policy and Guidelines for the PAC, which is tasked with the responsibility of making recommendations to the BOG for (1) the endorsement of candidates seeking election or re-election to political office and (2) political contributions from EAA to candidates and/or officeholders, (3) the endorsement of ballot initiatives and (4) contributions from EAA to ballot initiative campaigns.

### PAC Members

The PAC shall be composed of representative EAA members who have expressed an interest in political action and serving to represent their fellow EAA members. The Board President shall appoint PAC members and fill PAC vacancies.

Total Committee membership: a maximum of nine (9) members, with a quorum of five (5). In the case of vacancies, a quorum shall constitute a majority of the appointed members.

### PAC Guidelines

The EAA Board President shall appoint a Chair, and Vice-Chair, to conduct PAC business in accordance with the EAA PAC Guidelines and to preside over PAC meetings.

The PAC shall meet once a month, and on an as-needed basis when necessary to review and make recommendations for those candidates for an eligible office defined below and/or political contributions for their election or re-election to public office. The PAC shall consider and carry out the PAC objectives when making recommendations to the BOG to the extent practicable.

The objectives of the PAC are to:

- **Increase member engagement in political decision-making.** This objective can be achieved through a number of tools, including membership surveys, hosting candidates in an accessible forum, and soliciting questions to direct toward potential candidates.



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- **Provide the BOG with necessary information to make an informed political decision.** Through independent research and direct engagement with candidates, members of the PAC will work to ensure BOG members have strong platforms of understanding to make political decisions.

The PAC will consider endorsements and/or political contributions for eligible offices and ballot initiatives. Only those candidates for the following public offices are eligible for EAA endorsement and support:

- LA City Mayor
- LA City Council
- LA City Attorney
- LA City Controller
- LA County Supervisor
- LA County District Attorney
- California State Senate\*
- California State Assembly\*
- U.S. Congress in the House of Representatives\*
- Any other offices recommended by the PAC and approved by the BOG
- Any other offices designated by the BOG

\*Those districts located wholly or partially within LA City boundaries; exceptions require BOG approval.

All recommendations from the Committee to the BOG for endorsement and donations that are within direct campaign expenditure limits shall require approval by a majority of appointed PAC members. Absent a majority vote, the endorsement and/or political contribution request shall be forwarded to the BOG without recommendation.

The PAC is responsible for making formal recommendations to the BOG of candidates to be considered for EAA endorsement and/or political contributions though only the BOG has the authority to make the final decisions in regards to endorsements and/or political contributions. The BOG may adopt the PAC's recommendation on a majority vote of those present. However, it shall require the approval of a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the BOG to reverse the PAC's recommendation or act in the absence of the PAC recommendation in regard to endorsements



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and/or political contributions. As an example, if the BOG declines to support the PAC endorsed recommendation to endorse or contribute to a campaign, and **instead** seeks to either endorse or contribute to an opposing candidate in the same race, the BOG will need a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote to support an opposing candidate. If the BOG simply fails to support the PAC recommendation and does not receive the two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote for an opposing candidate, then EAA will not endorse or support any candidate for that race. Should the BOG decide to not adopt the recommendation of the PAC, it shall, through the Board President (or by delegation, the Board Secretary), notify the Committee Chair in writing of that decision and the explanation for it.

### **Independent Expenditures**

The PAC may, by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote of appointed PAC members, recommend an Independent Expenditure (with a stipulated amount) on behalf of a candidate or ballot initiative endorsed by the BOG. The BOG may adopt the Committee's recommendation on a majority vote of those present. However, it shall require the approval of a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the BOG to reverse the PAC's recommendation in regard to an Independent Expenditure. However, the BOG may decrease the recommended amount for the Independent Expenditure on a majority vote, but will require two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote to increase an Independent Expenditure. If the BOG proposes to increase an Independent Expenditure above the PAC recommended amount, it must only act after the item has been posted on the agenda for a subsequent BOG meeting with the new proposed value included on the agenda.

The PAC should consider the logistics and financial/legal requirements in executing Independent Expenditures on a more than an occasional frequency i.e. See [Executive Director's Report re Independent Expenditures](#).

### **PAC Member Stipends**

All appointed PAC members shall receive a stipend to defray expenses associated with their attendance and participation at the pre-scheduled monthly Committee meeting. The BOG shall determine stipend payment for any additional PAC meetings beyond the regularly scheduled monthly meeting. See Stipend Policy.



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### **Review and Approval of the Guidelines**

Any member of the PAC can propose an amendment to these guidelines at any set meeting, to be approved by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote. The PAC shall review the guidelines no less than once per calendar year.