

## **American Veterinary Medical Association Political Action Committee (AVMAPAC)**

The AVMAPAC's mission is to maintain a Congress that makes sound science based decisions and work to elect legislators dedicated to improving animal health and welfare, public health, and to advancing the veterinary medical profession. Its goal is to advance the legislative agenda, interests, concerns, and priorities of the AVMA by contributing to the campaigns of candidates who support AVMA issues, or who are willing to hear and consider AVMA positions on those issues in their decision-making process. To provide the necessary funds, the AVMAPAC solicits personal contributions from AVMA members, their immediate families and AVMA member employees. In addition, the AVMAPAC is charged to educate the general membership of the AVMA and to promote and encourage an understanding of the political and legislative processes of the federal government.

Through the AVMAPAC, veterinarians are able to have a voice on a national scale that reaches beyond their communities or states. The AVMAPAC works cooperatively with AVMA's grassroots network to help identify veterinarians who have personal contacts with their representatives and/or senators and utilize those contacts to help advance the AVMA legislative agenda.

AVMAPAC membership is often the first step in becoming politically active, and members who contribute to the PAC are more likely to vote in elections and get involved in political campaigns. AVMAPAC support has benefited the AVMA and the entire veterinary profession by gaining access to lawmakers and by establishing personal relationships between AVMA members/staff and legislators.

The AVMAPAC Policy Board oversees the business of AVMAPAC, which operates in accordance with rules established by the Federal Election Committee. The AVMAPAC Policy Board consists of six members – three are appointed by the AVMA Executive Board, and the AVMA House Advisory Committee appoints three.

The PAC Policy Board encourages veterinarians to run for political office at all levels of government. It will consider providing support to veterinarians who declare to run for the U.S. Congress and who are in good standing with their state and national associations.

### **Meetings**

The AVMAPAC Policy Board met three times during the past year: at the AVMA Annual Convention in Atlanta, GA, August 2010; and at the AVMA Conference Center in Washington, DC, September 20-21, 2010 and May 2-4, 2011. The AVMAPAC Policy Board also conducts business electronically and via teleconference. Dr. Howard Moore served as Chair.

### **AVMAPAC Operational Budget**

AVMAPAC's operational budget is provided by the AVMA. Expenses for 2010 were \$ \$85,290 which is 78.94% percent of the budgeted \$108,050.

### **AVMAPAC Fund Raising**

#### **2010 Fundraising**

The first quarter was a huge success for the PAC in 2010. The PAC raised approximately \$100,000 from 425 individuals -- a 15% increase from the same time period in 2009. Sixty-five percent came from new contributors and contributors returning after an absence from the PAC. In addition, 5% of 2010 donors raised their contributions (\$7,000 in 2009 to \$18,800 in 2010) and only 4% decreased their contributions (\$3,650 in 2009 to \$1,975).

In the second quarter of 2010, the PAC remained steady with 2009's receipts; with the exception of the month of June. The PAC collected 50% less receipts in June 2010 than during the June 2009. Data indicates larger contributions were made leading up to the 2009 Convention.

The PAC kept steady with 2009 third quarter fundraising and raised \$30,000 at the AVMA 2010 Convention. The PAC expected to raise twice that amount, but the new PAC luncheon format and time did not capture the 2008 and 2009 attendees. However, the PAC secured attendance of 6 Members of Congress and ran a successful high dollar donor benefit program.

The fourth quarter was very successful for 2010. AVMAPAC traditionally raises 50% plus receipts with membership dues. Dues season is at its peak in November and December. A large majority of PAC donors do not contribute until the end of the calendar year.

Total receipts for 2010 were \$280,745.25, with 2% (1,901) AVMA members contributing and 50% of the House of Delegates. 49% of 2010 donors were new or returned PAC donors.

Sixty-six percent of 2010 AVMAPAC contributors practice companion veterinary medicine, followed by food animal practitioners at 9% and equine practitioners at 4%. In addition, the majority of 2010 contributors graduated from Texas A&M University (157), followed by University of Pennsylvania (132), and Ohio State University (110). And Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine alumni contributed the most to the PAC in 2010 (\$15,348), followed by alumni from the veterinary schools at Cornell University(\$14,810) and Texas A&M University(\$14,585).

### **2011 Fundraising**

The first quarter of 2011 kept a steady pace and raised just under \$80,000 from 401 people. This is slightly below the 2010 record due to a new campaign strategy that focused on retaining first quarter donors and requesting maxed out contributions in the third quarter. In 2010 twelve members contributed a maxed out contribution in the first quarter; only 5 of those maxed out in the first quarter of 2011. The PAC ran a successful postcard reminder renewal plan in February and March of 2011. There was a 10% return on the February plan, a very favorable return on a mailing, and captured 65% of lapsed 2010 donors.

The second quarter raised well below the \$100,000 goal. The PAC only added \$34,270 from 57 donors; 51% of the donors were new or returned, however 63% of 2010 second quarter contributors did not contribute in the second quarter of 2011. The PAC sent one reminder postcard to the 297 2010 first quarter donors who did not contribute in 2011; it yielded a 6% small dollar return.

The PAC's mid-year numbers stand at total raised \$113,055 with 448 contributors, 63% new or returned, but 68% of 2010 first and second quarter donors did not contribute in 2011. The AVMAPAC will target these lost contributors in third quarter fundraising events.

### **AVMAPAC Contributions to Qualified Candidates**

The AVMAPAC is a nonpartisan PAC. The AVMAPAC Policy Board uses the following criteria for federal candidates to receive AVMAPAC contributions.

- \* Is the incumbent/candidate or his/her family member a veterinarian?
- \* Is the incumbent/candidate a pro-science and pro-veterinary medicine legislator?
- \* Does the incumbent/candidate represent a district/state with veterinary schools?
- \* Does the incumbent/candidate represent a district/state with a significant number of AVMA Members, and does the incumbent/candidate have a strong relationship with the AVMA Members?
- \* Is the incumbent on key Congressional committees which consider legislation of importance to AVMA and are supportive of AVMA positions?

In addition, the AVMAPAC Board uses the following guidelines to analyze the above criteria.

- \* AVMAPAC supports Congressional Members who are Veterinarians or have a Veterinarian in their family.
- \* AVMAPAC will consider candidates for contributions if the candidate is within the existing criteria for disbursements.

\* AVMAPAC supports incumbents who serve in leadership positions or are on key Congressional committees that consider legislation of importance to AVMA and who are supportive of AVMA policies and positions.

\* AVMAPAC supports incumbents who understand veterinary concerns and are supportive of AVMA positions.

\* AVMAPAC's priority is to Members of Congress who serve in leadership or sit on committees of jurisdiction, including, but not limited to House and Senate Agriculture Committees; House Energy and Commerce Committee; Senate HELP committee; House Small Business Committee; and Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee.

AVMAPAC, as a general principle, will allocate funds along the following guidelines for an election cycle

**U.S. House of Representatives**

- \$1,000 Incumbents who are on key committees.
- \$2,000 Candidates and incumbents who are in leadership.
- \$5,000 Candidates and incumbents with proven record as key Congressional allies
- \$10,000 Maximum contribution for an especially supportive candidate who is in a difficult election (includes \$5000 for the primary election and \$5000 for the general election)

**U.S. Senate**

- \$1,000 Incumbents who are on key committees
- \$2,500 Candidates and incumbents who are in leadership
- \$5,000 Candidates and incumbents with proven record as key Congressional allies

\$10,000 Maximum contribution for an especially supportive candidate who is in a difficult election (includes \$5000 for the primary election and \$5000 for the general election)

**Political Parties (up to a maximum of \$15,000 per year):**

- \$30,000 National Republican Senatorial Committee
- \$30,000 National Republican Congressional Committee
- \$30,000 Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee
- \$30,000 Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee

AVMAPAC contributed a majority of all PAC disbursements to the Democratic Party in 2010, 59% to Democrats and 41% to Republicans. The Democrats were in the majority and as a bi-partisan PAC the AVMAPAC pays close attention to disbursement percentages. In addition, the 2010 election’s environment was far more favorable to Republican candidates and the AVMAPAC Democratic champions faced much tougher re-election campaign than our Republican friends.

**2010 Election Cycle**

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>Disburse Amount</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Chamber</b>	<b>Result</b>
Adler, John	\$3,000.00	D	NJ	H	lost
Alexander, Rodney	\$1,000.00	R	LA	H	won
Austria, Steve	\$1,000.00	R	OH	H	won
Ayotte, Kelly	\$2,500.00	R	NH	S	won
Baca, Joseph	\$1,000.00	D	CA	H	won
Baldwin, Tammy	\$4,500.00	D	WI	H	won
Barrow, John	\$2,000.00	D	GA	H	won
Barton, Joe	\$2,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Bayh, Evan	\$1,000.00	D	IN	S	retired
Bean, Melissa	\$2,000.00	D	IL	H	lost
Bennet, Michael	\$3,000.00	D	CO	S	won

Bennett, Robert	\$10,000.00	R	UT	S	lost (P)
Bernier, Justin	\$1,000.00	R	CT	H	lost (P)
Bilirakis, Gus	\$1,000.00	R	FL	H	won
Bishop, Sanford	\$1,000.00	D	GA	H	won
Blackburn, Marsha	\$1,000.00	R	TN	H	won
Blunt, Roy	\$2,000.00	R	MO	S	won
Bocchieri, John	\$1,000.00	D	OH	H	lost
Boehner, John	\$10,000.00	R	OH	H	won
Bond, Christopher	\$4,000.00	R	MO	S	retired
Bono Mack, Mary	\$1,000.00	R	CA	H	won
Bordallo, Madeleine	\$1,000.00	D	GU	H	won
Boswell, Leonard	\$10,000.00	D	IA	H	won
Boustany, Charles	\$1,000.00	R	LA	H	won
Boyd, Allen	\$6,000.00	D	FL	H	lost
Brady, Kevin	\$1,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Bright, Bobby	\$4,000.00	D	AL	H	lost
Brown, Henry	\$1,000.00	R	SC	H	retired
Brownback, Sam	\$10,000.00	R	KS	S	retired
Burgess, Michael C.	\$1,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Burr, Richard	\$10,000.00	R	NC	H	won
Buyer, Steve	\$1,000.00	R	IN	H	retired
Camp, David	\$2,000.00	R	MI	H	won
Cantor, Eric	\$5,000.00	R	VA	H	won
Cardoza, Dennis	\$2,000.00	D	CA	H	won
Cassidy, William	\$1,000.00	R	LA	H	won
Castor, Kathy	\$1,000.00	D	FL	H	won
Chabot, Steve	\$1,000.00	R	OH	H	won
Chandler, Benjamin	\$1,000.00	D	KY	H	won
Childers, Travis	\$3,000.00	D	MS	H	lost
Coburn, Thomas	\$4,000.00	R	OK	S	won
Conaway, Michael	\$1,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Crapo, Michael	\$10,000.00	R	ID	S	won
Crowley, Joseph	\$1,000.00	D	NY	H	won
Dahlkemper, Kathleen	\$3,000.00	D	PA	H	lost
Davis, Lincoln	\$2,000.00	D	TN	H	lost
DeLauro, Rosa	\$7,500.00	D	CT	H	won
DeMint, James	\$2,000.00	R	SC	S	won
Dingell, John	\$5,000.00	D	MI	H	won
Djou, Charles	\$1,000.00	R	HI	H	lost
Dodd, Christopher	\$5,000.00	D	CT	S	retired
Doggett, Lloyd	\$2,000.00	D	TX	H	won
Dorgan, Byron	\$4,000.00	D	ND	S	retired
Edwards, Chet	\$1,000.00	D	TX	H	lost
Ellsworth, Brad	\$6,000.00	D	IN	H	lost
Emerson, Jo Ann	\$1,000.00	R	MO	H	won



Etheridge, Bob	\$2,000.00	D	NC	H	lost
Farr, Sam	\$5,000.00	D	CA	H	won
Feingold, Russell	\$2,000.00	D	WI	S	lost
Fincher, Steve	\$2,000.00	R	TN	H	won
Fortenberry, Jeff	\$1,000.00	R	NE	H	won
Giffords, Gabrielle	\$5,000.00	D	AZ	H	won
Gillibrand, Kirsten	\$2,000.00	D	NY	S	won
Gingrey, Phil	\$1,000.00	R	GA	H	won
Goodlatte, Robert	\$3,000.00	R	VA	H	won
Granger, Kay	\$3,500.00	R	TX	H	won
Grassley, Charles	\$7,000.00	R	IA	S	won
Graves, Samuel	\$3,000.00	R	MO	H	won
Gregg, Judd	\$4,000.00	R	NH	S	retired
Griffith, Parker	\$1,000.00	R	AL	H	lost (P)
Hall, John	\$500.00	D	NY	H	lost
Halvorson, Deborah	\$2,000.00	D	IL	H	lost
Harper, Gregg	\$1,000.00	R	MS	H	won
Hastings, Alcee	\$1,000.00	D	FL	H	won
Hastings, Richard	\$1,000.00	R	WA	H	won
Herger, Wally	\$2,000.00	R	CA	H	won
Herrera, Jaime	\$1,000.00	R	WA	H	won
Herseth Sandlin, S.	\$5,000.00	D	SD	H	lost
Himes, James	\$1,000.00	D	CT	H	won
Hinchey, Maurice	\$3,000.00	D	NY	H	won
Holden, Tim	\$5,000.00	D	PA	H	won
Hoyer, Steny	\$2,000.00	D	MD	H	won
Inouye, Daniel	\$5,000.00	D	HI	S	won
Isakson, John	\$10,000.00	R	GA	S	won
Issa, Darrell	\$1,000.00	R	CA	H	won
Jackson, Jesse	\$1,000.00	D	IL	H	won
Jenkins, Lynn	\$1,000.00	R	KS	H	won
Johnson, Samuel	\$1,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Johnson, Timothy	\$1,000.00	R	IL	H	won
Kagen, Steve	\$1,000.00	D	WI	H	lost
Kaptur, Marcy	\$1,000.00	D	OH	H	won
Kind, Ron	\$1,000.00	D	WI	H	won
King, Steve	\$3,000.00	R	IA	H	won
Kingston, Jack	\$10,000.00	R	GA	H	won
Kirkpatrick, Ann	\$3,000.00	D	AZ	H	lost
Kissell, Larry	\$3,000.00	D	NC	H	won
Kratovil, Frank	\$4,000.00	D	MD	H	lost
Larson, John	\$2,500.00	D	CT	H	won
Latham, Thomas	\$6,000.00	R	IA	H	won
Leahy, Patrick	\$8,000.00	D	VT	S	won
Lewis, Jerry	\$2,000.00	R	CA	H	won

Lincoln, Blanche	\$15,000.00	D	AR	S	lost
Lucas, Frank	\$10,000.00	R	OK	H	won
Luetkemeyer, Blaine	\$1,000.00	R	MO	H	won
Lummis, Cynthia	\$3,000.00	R	WY	H	won
Marchant, Kenneth	\$1,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Markey, Betsy	\$1,000.00	D	CO	H	lost
Martinez, Mel	\$2,000.00	R	FL	S	retired
Massa, Eric	\$1,000.00	D	NY	H	retired
Matheson, James	\$1,000.00	D	UT	H	won
McHenry, Patrick	\$2,000.00	R	NC	H	won
McIntyre, Mike	\$2,000.00	D	NC	H	won
Michaud, Michael	\$2,000.00	D	ME	H	won
Mikulski, Barbara	\$9,000.00	D	MD	S	won
Minnick, Walter	\$1,000.00	D	ID	H	lost
Moran, Jerry	\$5,000.00	R	KS	S	won
Murkowski, Lisa	\$4,000.00	R	AK	S	won
Murphy, Tim	\$2,000.00	R	PA	H	won
Murray, Patty	\$4,000.00	D	WA		won
Neugebauer, Randy	\$2,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Obey, David	\$5,000.00	D	WI	H	retired
Pallone, Frank	\$3,000.00	D	NJ	H	won
Paulsen, Erik	\$1,000.00	R	MN	H	won
Peterson, Collin	\$10,000.00	D	MN	H	won
Pitts, Joseph	\$2,000.00	R	PA	H	won
Poe, Ted	\$1,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Pomeroy, Earl	\$2,000.00	D	ND	H	lost
Portman, Rob	\$1,000.00	R	OH	S	won
Price, David	\$4,000.00	D	NC	H	won
Reid, Harry	\$7,000.00	D	NV	S	won
Rogers, Harold	\$1,000.00	R	KY	H	won
Rogers, Michael	\$2,000.00	R	MI	H	won
Ross, Michael	\$1,000.00	D	AR	H	won
Ryan, Paul	\$2,000.00	R	WI	H	won
Ryan, Timothy	\$1,000.00	D	OH	H	won
Salazar, John	\$3,000.00	D	CO	H	lost
Salazar, Ken	\$4,000.00	D	CO	S	retired
Sarbanes, John	\$1,000.00	D	MD	H	won
Schauer, Mark	\$1,000.00	D	MI	H	lost
Schock, Aaron	\$1,000.00	R	IL	H	won
Schrader, Kurt	\$10,000.00	D	OR	H	won
Schumer, Charles	\$2,000.00	D	NY	S	won
Scott, David	\$10,000.00	D	GA	H	won
Sensenbrenner, Jim	\$1,000.00	R	WI	H	won
Sessions, Pete	\$2,000.00	R	TX	H	won
Sestak, Joseph	\$1,000.00	D	PA	H	retired

Shelby, Richard	\$2,000.00	R	AL	S	won
Shimkus, John	\$1,000.00	R	IL	H	won
Shuler, Heath	\$3,000.00	D	NC	H	won
Simpson, Michael	\$2,000.00	R	ID	H	won
Smith, Adrian	\$7,500.00	R	NE	H	won
Space, Zachary	\$4,000.00	D	OH	H	lost
Specter, Arlen	\$2,000.00	R	PA	S	lost (P)
Speier, Jackie	\$2,000.00	D	CA	H	won
Stearns, Cliff	\$1,000.00	R	FL	H	won
Thompson, Charles	\$1,000.00	R	OK	H	lost
Thompson, Glenn	\$1,000.00	R	PA	H	lost
Thompson, Michael	\$2,000.00	D	CA	H	won
Thune, John	\$10,000.00	R	SD	S	won
Tiberi, Patrick	\$1,000.00	R	OH	H	won
Titus, Dina	\$3,000.00	D	NV	H	lost
Tsongas, Nicola	\$1,000.00	D	MA	H	won
Upton, Frederick	\$1,000.00	R	MI	H	won
Van Hollen, Chris	\$2,000.00	D	MD	H	won
Velazquez, Nydia	\$5,000.00	D	NY	H	won
Vitter, David	\$5,000.00	R	LA	S	won
Wasserman-Schultz, D.	\$3,000.00	D	FL	H	won
Waxman, Henry	\$5,000.00	D	CA	H	won
Welch, Peter	\$1,000.00	D	VT	H	won
Wilson, Charles	\$1,000.00	D	OH	H	lost
Wolf, Frank	\$2,000.00	R	VA	H	won
Woolsey, Lynn	\$1,000.00	D	CA	H	won
Wyden, Ron	\$1,000.00	D	OR	S	won
Young, C.W.	\$1,000.00	R	FL	H	won
Young, Donald	\$1,000.00	R	AK	H	won

## 2012 Election Cycle

In 2011 AVMAPAC disbursed \$101,000 to Republican campaigns and \$98,000 to Democratic campaigns. The Democratic National Committee does not accept PAC money, thus the AVMAPAC contributed to three Democratic leadership PACs to balance the contribution and keep a 50% ratio.

Candidate Name	Disburse Amount	Party	State	Chamber
Baca, Joe	\$1,000.00	D	CA	H
Baucus, Max	\$1,000.00	D	MT	S
Benishek, Dan	\$1,000.00	R	MI	H

Berg, Richard	\$2,000.00	R	ND	H*
Bishop, Sanford	\$1,000.00	D	GA	H
Blunt, Roy	\$1,000.00	R	MO	S
Boehner, John	\$5,000.00	R	OH	H
Boswell, Leonard	\$1,000.00	D	IA	H
Brown, Sherrod	\$1,000.00	D	OH	S
Cardoza, Dennis	\$1,000.00	D	CA	H
Crapo, Michael	\$1,000.00	R	ID	S
DeLauro, Rosa	\$2,000.00	D	CT	H
Ellmers, Renee	\$2,000.00	R	NC	H
Fincher, Steve	\$1,000.00	R	TN	H
Gardner, Cory	\$1,000.00	R	CO	H
Goodlatte, Robert	\$1,000.00	R	VA	H
Graves, Samuel	\$1,000.00	R	MO	H
Harper, Gregg	\$1,000.00	R	MS	H
Hartzler, Viki	\$1,000.00	R	MO	H
Heller, Dean	\$1,000.00	R	NV	H*
Huelskamp, Tim	\$1,000.00	R	KS	H
Johanns, Michael	\$1,000.00	R	NE	S
Johnson, Tim	\$1,000.00	D	SD	S
Kingston, Jack	\$5,000.00	R	GA	H
Kissell, Larry	\$1,000.00	D	NC	H
Klobuchar, Amy	\$2,000.00	D	MN	S
Latham, Thomas	\$1,000.00	R	IA	H
Lucas, Frank	\$10,000.00	R	OK	H
McCaskill, Claire	\$5,000.00	D	MO	S
McIntyre, Mike	\$1,000.00	D	NC	H
Moran, Jerry	\$2,000.00	R	KS	S
Nelson, Ben	\$2,000.00	D	NE	S
Neugebauer, Randy	\$1,000.00	R	TX	H
Nunnelee, Alan	\$1,000.00	R	MS	H
Owens, Bill	\$1,000.00	D	NY	H
Palazzo, Steven	\$1,000.00	R	MS	H
Peterson, Colin	\$10,000.00	D	MN	H
Pitts, Joseph	\$1,000.00	R	PA	H
Roberts, Pat	\$1,000.00	R	KS	S
Rooney, Thomas	\$1,000.00	R	FL	H
Schrader, Kurt	\$5,000.00	D	OR	H
Scott, David	\$1,000.00	D	GA	H
Smith, Adrian	\$10,000.00	R	NE	H
Stabenow, Debbie	\$10,000.00	D	MI	S
Thompson, Glenn	\$1,000.00	R	PA	H
Wasserman-Schultz	\$1,000.00	D	FL	H

## **2010 – 2011 PAC Policy Board Members**

Area 1: Dr. Gary Bullard (HAC appointee);

open (Executive Board appointee)

Area 2: Dr. Wally Kraft, Treasurer (HAC Appointee);

Dr. Vern Otte (EB Appointee)

Area 3: Dr. Travis McDermott, Vice Chair (Executive Board appointee)

Dr. Howard Moore, Chair (HAC appointee)

## **Summary of Committee Recommendations and Executive Board Actions**

In response to a legal review of AVMAPAC charge and operations, the AVMAPAC Policy Board put forth the following recommendations for consideration at the November 2011 Executive Board meeting:

That the Executive Board approve revisions to the AVMAPAC Policy Board charge (underlined text indicates additions; struck-through text, deletions):

### **Political Action Committee Policy Board**

~~Created by the House of Delegates when the proposed PAC Constitution was approved at the 1978 AVMA Annual Meeting.~~

### **Charge/Objective**

In compliance with the Federal Election Campaign Act, to raise funds for the purpose of making contributions to the campaigns of candidates for federal public office.

~~The Executive Board confirmed, at its fall 1978 meeting, that The PAC Policy Board is responsible for general supervision and control of the PAC. ~~that all PAC decisions and activities shall be free and independent of direction from the AVMA Executive Board.~~~~

To educate the general membership of the AVMA and to promote and encourage an understanding of the political/legislative process.

To assist in the implementation of the Executive Board-approved legislative and regulatory agenda by contacting federal officials and staff via email, phone, fax and/or personal visits while in Washington, DC and/or the home district.

**Membership, Method of Appointment, and Representation**

The PAC ~~Constitution~~ Policies and Procedures provides that the Executive Board and the House Advisory Committee will name three members each to the PAC Policy Board. Of those appointed by the Executive Board and the House Advisory Committee, one must reside in each of the three convention location zones.

Appointments are for two-year terms ending at the close of the annual AVMA meeting, or when a successor is elected, with no one to serve more than three full consecutive terms.

Interim PAC Policy Board members are appointed by the PAC Board. are appointed by the AVMA Executive Board or the House Advisory Committee, depending on the position, and shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Appointed by Executive Board: PAC Area #1, PAC Area #2, PAC Area #3

Appointed by House Advisory Committee: PAC Area #1, PAC Area #2, PAC Area #3

Staff consultant: Natalie Thomas

The recommendation was approved

That the Executive Board approve the following AVMA Political Action Committee Policies and Procedures Manual, to supersede the AVMAPAC Constitution:

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

**Policies and Procedures**

~~(Approved by the AVMA Executive Board, May 2003 and last amended in July 2007)~~

**ARTICLE I—Organization**

- 1.1** The American Veterinary Medical Association Political Action Committee, hereinafter referred to as the AVMAPAC, is administered by the Policy Board. Members of the policy board shall act solely in their capacity as such, and their decisions and determinations shall be completely independent of any relationship they have with the American Veterinary Medical Association or any other corporation or organization.
- 1.2** The AVMAPAC is a voluntary, unincorporated organization of individual veterinarians and others, which is not affiliated with any political party, political candidate, or other political organization.

- 1.3** The principal place of business of the AVMAPAC shall be the offices of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), 1910 Sunderland Place NW, Washington, DC 20036-1608 or at such other place as may be designated by the ~~Policy Board~~ AVMA Executive Board from time to time.

#### **~~ARTICLE II~~—Purpose**

- 2.1** The purpose and goal of the AVMAPAC is to advance the legislative goals of the AVMA by providing financial support to selected candidates who seek election to federal elective public offices, by collecting money and contributing that money to the political campaigns of such candidates.
- 2.2** The AVMAPAC shall only solicit funds from its solicitable class, which is limited to the general membership of the American Veterinary Medical Association, their immediate families, ~~and qualified AVMA employees and their immediate families, and other AVMA employees as permitted under the Federal Election Campaign Act.~~
- 2.3** In conjunction with raising funds for contributions to support candidates for federal elective public offices, the AVMAPAC should educate the general membership to promote and encourage an understanding of the political/legislative process. Membership outreach and education programs should be designed and implemented as necessary.

#### **~~ARTICLE III~~—Membership**

- 3.1** Membership in the AVMAPAC shall be limited to individuals who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents at the time they contribute to AVMAPAC. The Policy Board is authorized to establish categories of membership.
- 3.2** All members must be contributors to the AVMAPAC in the current contribution year.

#### **~~ARTICLE IV~~— Contributions**

- 4.1.** All contributions to AVMAPAC shall be from individuals and shall be voluntary. For convenience of administration, the Policy Board may determine, subject to applicable federal laws, the appropriate times and means of soliciting such contributions. Contributions to AVMAPAC shall be used in support of candidates for federal elective office in accordance with the Purposes set forth in ~~Article III~~ 2.1.
- 4.2.** No contribution to AVMAPAC shall be accepted, and no expenditure shall be made from the Fund by or on behalf of AVMAPAC at a time when there is a vacancy in the office of ~~its~~ both the Treasurer and ~~it's the~~ Assistant Treasurer.
- 4.3.** No Member of AVMAPAC, nor anyone making a contribution to AVMAPAC, shall have a right to share personally in any funds or assets in the Fund or in any contribution by AVMAPAC upon its dissolution or at any other time.
- 4.4.** AVMAPAC Corporate Contributions. ~~All funds submitted as AVMAPAC contributions will be accepted beginning with income from the 1987 dues notice. All lawful personal check contributions will be deposited in the turned over to AVMAPAC accounts and acknowledged to the member contributor with advice regarding the tax credit benefits~~

to the contributor. All contributions made by a ~~corporate check corporation~~ will be retained by AVMA and used to supplement the GRD promotional account ~~for to cover PAC and GRD usage administrative expenses.~~ All such contributions will be acknowledged to the ~~member contributor~~ with a notation that a tax credit will not be accepted by IRS for such contributions. The acknowledgment letter will also offer to refund the contribution if the ~~member contributor~~ requests.

#### **ARTICLE V—Fund**

- 5.1** All lawful contributions to AVMAPAC shall be placed and maintained by AVMAPAC in a separate, segregate Fund, (hereinafter called the "Fund"). All expenditures by AVMAPAC in support of candidates or political committees and for all costs and expenses of the Committee not defrayed by the American Veterinary Medical Association, shall be made in accordance with the Purposes set forth in 2.1 ~~Article III~~ hereof, and shall be made in the sole discretion of the ~~Executive Committee~~ AVMAPAC Policy Board with written notification to AVMAPAC as a whole at least quarterly. AVMAPAC shall only make contributions to federal officeholders and federal candidates, and to national party committees. The Committee is prohibited from giving to state or local political parties, ~~or~~ PACs, 527 groups, non-federal candidates, and other entities not designated in this section.
- 5.2** It is the general intent of AVMAPAC to expend all funds collected for the purposes aforesaid, taking into account the intervals at which federal elections are held, ~~and the necessity to retain sufficient funds for AVMAPAC's reasonable operating expenses from any one year to the next.~~

#### **ARTICLE VI—Policy Board**

- 6.1** The affairs and funds of the AVMAPAC shall be subject to the general supervision and control of a Policy Board, the members of which shall serve without compensation.
- 6.2** Determinations of the expenditures to be made and contributions to candidates shall be at the discretion of the Policy Board. ~~criteria that it establishes in conformance with AVMA interests, concerns, and priorities.~~
- 6.3** The Policy Board shall consist of six members, three of whom shall be elected by the AVMA Executive Board, one from each of the AVMA meeting location zones (Eastern, Midwestern, and Western), and three of whom shall be elected by the AVMA House Advisory Committee with the same zonal representation.
- 6.4** Policy Board members shall be appointed for terms of two years, ending at the close of the annual meeting of the Policy Board or, in the case of a mid-term vacancy, when a Board member's successor is elected. If any vacancy occurs on the Policy Board, the AVMA Executive Board or the House Advisory Committee, depending on the position, shall appoint an individual to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. No Board member shall serve for more than three consecutive terms. A partial term of one year or less shall not be considered a term for the purposes of reappointment eligibility. ~~The Board of Directors may remove any Policy Board member for actions in contradiction to the By-Laws.~~ The AVMA Executive Board may remove a PAC Board member in accordance with AVMA Policy # 02041 Resignation, Suspension, and Removal from AVMA Entities.



**ARTICLE VII—Officers  
Policy Board Leadership**

- 7.1** ~~The officers of the Policy Board shall be~~ The PAC Policy Board shall elect a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Treasurer, and assistant Treasurer, ~~and such other officers as the Policy Board may from time to time designate.~~ The officers shall be elected by the Policy Board from among the members of the Policy Board at or before its annual meeting and shall serve until the end of the next annual meeting of the Policy Board.
- 7.2** The Chair shall ~~be the chief executive officer of the~~ preside over Policy Board meetings and shall be an *ex officio*, voting member of all subcommittees established by the Policy Board. ~~The Chair shall preside at the meetings of the Policy Board.~~ The Chair shall appoint the chair and other members of any subcommittees, subject to the approval of the Policy Board.
- 7.3** The Vice Chair will assume the Chair’s duties when the Chair is unable to serve.
- 7.4** The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining the records of the actions of the Policy Board and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Policy Board. The Treasurer shall be the financial official of the Policy Board, shall give a financial report at each meeting, shall be an *ex officio*, voting member of any or all subcommittees, and shall be responsible for maintaining the records of contributions, contributors, and expenditures of AVMA, as required by law. Whenever the Treasurer is unable to act, the Assistant Treasurer shall assume the Treasurer’s responsibilities.
- 7.5** The Chair, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer may give bond in such sum as may be fixed by the Policy Board, the premium on such bond to be paid by the AVMAPAC.
- 7.6** No contribution or expenditure shall be accepted or made by or on behalf of the AVMAPAC at a time when there are vacancies both in the offices of the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. No expenditure shall be made for or on behalf of the AVMAPAC without the authorization of the Chair, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, or their designated agents.

**ARTICLE VIII—Meetings**

- 8.1** The annual meeting of the Policy Board shall be held at the AVMA Annual Meeting and Convention or at such time as may be determined by the AVMA Executive Board. Additionally there will be at least one more meeting each year.
- 8.2** Special meetings of the Policy Board shall be called by the Chair or upon the written request of two members of the Policy Board.
- 8.3** Four Policy Board members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Policy Board. Voting proxies shall not be permitted for the purpose of establishing a quorum or deciding any issue.
- 8.4** AVMAPAC meetings are conducted in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order.
- 8.5** Voting in electronic meetings and teleconferences shall be conducted in accordance with AVMA’s rules for entity voting outside of a formal, in-person meeting Policy.

## **ARTICLE IX—Other Matters**

- 9.1** Subcommittees. The Policy Board shall establish such subcommittees as the Policy Board determines are necessary or desirable for achieving its purpose. The chair and other members of any such subcommittees shall be appointed by the Chair of the Policy Board, subject to the approval of the Policy Board.
- 9.2** Annual Report. The Policy Board shall submit a report to the AVMA Executive Board and House of Delegates at the AVMA Annual Meeting and Convention. The report shall contain a summary of actions taken during the prior calendar year, including the amount of contributions received and disbursements to the political campaigns of candidates for federal elective public offices.
- 9.3** Audit. The AVMAPAC books of accounts shall be audited on a biennial basis by an auditor named by the Chair of the Policy Board with the approval of the Policy Board. Such audits shall begin within 4 5 months of the end of a federal election year. An audit shall consist of the disclosure of all PAC financial activities to the Policy Board.
- 9.4** Deposits. Contributions to the AVMAPAC shall be deposited to the credit of the AVMAPAC in such banks or other depositories as the Policy Board may select. Contributions to the AVMAPAC shall not be commingled with the funds of any Policy Board member or Officer of the Policy Board or with funds of the AVMA or any other organization.
- ~~**9.5** Amendments. This constitution may be altered, amended, or repealed, and a new constitution adopted by the AVMA Executive Board.~~
- 9.5** Termination. Upon dissolution or termination of the AVMAPAC, if it is not reconstituted as a political action committee, the ~~officers of the~~ Policy Board shall cause any remaining funds to be contributed to the American Veterinary Medical Foundation.
- 9.6** PAC Check Signatories. Two signatures are required for all checks drawn on the AVMAPAC bank account. Approved individuals authorized to sign checks written from the account are the GRD Division Director, AVMAPAC Chair, and the Finance and Business Services Division Director.
- 9.7** Russell Anthony Award. The Russell Anthony Award winner is selected by the AVMAPAC Policy Board using the following criteria

### **Russell Anthony Award Criteria**

(Updated July 2009)

### **Russell Anthony Award**

The award is given as needed up to once a year to an individual to recognize his/her contribution to advance the AVMA's Political Action Committee (PAC) strategic goals whether through monetary contribution or political support.

The award comprises a physical award and 2 complimentary tickets to the AVMA Political Action Committee (PAC) Luncheon at the AVMA Convention.

### **Criteria**

- Nominees must be a veterinarian and an AVMA member
- The AVMA Political Action Committee Policy Board selects the recipient of the Russell Anthony Award
- At the discretion of the AVMA Political Action Committee Policy Board, an award need not be presented every year
- Nominations must recognize efforts related to advance the AVMA's Political Action Committee strategic goals whether through monetary contribution or political support

Recipient to be selected at the Spring AVMAPAC Policy Board meeting

**9.8** Uncashed and Undelivered AVMAPAC Checks. Delivered checks that have not been cashed within one year of processing will be voided. Approved contributions that have not been delivered within one year of approval will be rescinded and the funds made available for other contributions.

**The recommendation was approved**

The AVMAPAC Policy Board put forth the following recommendations for consideration at the January 2011 Executive Board meeting:

That the Executive Board authorize in-budget funding for a Fall 2011 AVMA Political Action Committee (AVMAPAC) Policy Board meeting half day training session in Washington DC.

**This recommendation was approved.**

The AVMAPAC Policy Board put forth the following recommendation to the June 2011 Executive Board Meeting

That the Executive Board approve moving the Spring 2012 AVMAPAC Policy Board meeting from Washington, DC to Chicago, IL during the 2012 AVMA Regular Winter Session.

**This recommendation was approved.**