

Lansing Regional Chamber-Political Action Committee FAQ

What is the LRC-PAC? The LRC-PAC is the non-partisan political action committee of the Lansing Regional Chamber, organized with the purpose of maintaining a pro-business outlook among elected officials and legislation in the Greater Lansing area. The PAC is a separate entity from the Chamber and has its own bylaws. The PAC is registered with the Michigan Secretary of State and the Federal Elections Commission.

Who runs the LRC-PAC? The LRC-PAC is run by an independent volunteer Board of Directors, appointed for 3-year terms. An elected Chairperson oversees the meetings. The LRC-PAC Board is also made up of volunteers from varying business sizes and types. All members of the Chamber PAC must be members of the Lansing Regional Chamber.

Who contributes to the LRC-PAC? Anyone can contribute to the LRC-PAC. The Chamber does not provide money to the PAC and the PAC is responsible for raising its own funds. The PAC receives its funding from Chamber members, business-oriented PACs, and others interested in improving the business and economic climate in the Greater Lansing region.

What is a typical donation amount? LRC-PAC contribution amounts vary, from \$50 to as much as \$5,000. All contributions to the PAC are voluntary and are separate and segregated from the Chamber's general fund. Information about contributions to the PAC, as well as expenditures, is public information and will be reported and disclosed as required by law. Corporate checks will not be accepted.

What election races does the LRC-PAC contribute to? The LRC-PAC stays involved in monitoring many election races including races for U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Gubernatorial, State House, State Senate, Ingham, Clinton and Eaton County Commissions, local Township Boards, Lansing City Council, LCC Trustees, and local Boards of Education.

How are candidates chosen for endorsement by the LRC-PAC? Each year the LRC-PAC prepares a questionnaire on relevant business issues that is distributed to registered candidates. Based on candidate responses, a subset of LRC-PAC Board members conduct candidate interviews and review candidates' backgrounds before making recommendations to the full LRC-PAC Board. A majority vote from the LRC-PAC Board is required for a candidate to receive endorsement.

What types of monies are accepted by the LRC-PAC? Personal checks and funds from LLCs and Partnerships are accepted, as long as the funds are contributed to specific partners.

Why aren't corporate checks accepted by a PAC? Under Michigan Campaign Finance Law a PAC cannot receive funding from corporate contributions.

Why should I contribute to the LRC-PAC? Elected officials make decisions that will impact you and your business. By making a contribution to the LRC-PAC you are ensuring that candidates in favor of your business interests have a better chance of being elected.

How does the LRC-PAC ensure pro-business attitudes stay in Lansing? By staying abreast of business issues and communicating the business perspective to elected officials, monitoring political activity to know when business intervention is necessary, and knowing the voting record of elected officials and whether they support the business community.

How is the contribution amount for a candidate endorsement decided? The LRC-PAC Board votes on the contribution amount per endorsed candidate based on the individual race and the need for funding.

For additional information, contact: Steve Japinga, sjapinga@lansingchamber.org or 517-853-6467.