

# SLI-PAC

## THE POLITICAL VOICE OF THE SURPLUS LINES INDUSTRY

### Surplus Line Insurance PAC

### Political Action Committee

## WHAT IS A POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE?

Political Action Committees are organized under Oregon Law as a way for people of like interests to pool their money into one fund that can then be contributed to candidates for political office who are supported by the group. All contributions to the fund and expenditures from the fund must be carefully accounted for and detailed reports must be regularly filed with the Secretary of State's Election Division.



## WHAT IS SLI-PAC?

SLI-PAC is a political action committee formed by surplus lines industry for the purpose of pooling their money to support candidates for election to the Oregon Legislature and other offices. Membership consists of people who contribute to SLI-PAC and includes SLAOR members, spouses, family, employees, and friends. SLI-PAC has an annual meeting of its members in conjunction with the SLI-PAC Annual Meeting and at that time elects a board of directors in accordance with the by-laws of SLI-PAC.

## WHY SHOULD I CONTRIBUTE TO SLI-PAC?

Only through collective political action can we ensure that our lawmakers hear the voice of the surplus line industry. These lawmakers are shaping the future of our industry and it is the professional responsibility of everyone in the industry to be involved in the political process. When citizens who understand the importance of our industry to the business community and our state's economy are willing to run for political office, it is not only in our best interest to support them, it is our civic duty.

## IF I CONTRIBUTE--- WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Your contribution to SLI-PAC will be deposited in a bank account with all other contributions. Each contribution into the account is carefully accounted for and reported to the State Elections Division, as are all expenditures from the account.

SLI-PAC employs the services of Capitol Accounting Services, Donna Butler CPA, who does the accounting and files all appropriate reports to the Elections Division. The only monies expended from the account are for accounting services, minimal fundraising expenses, and political contributions to candidates for public office. In a typical election year, over 98% of expenditures are for contributions to political candidates.

## HOW DOES SLI-PAC DECIDE WHICH CANDIDATE TO SUPPORT?

SLI-PAC members elect five people to its board of directors at its annual meeting each year. The five member board elects a chairman from among itself. These five people vote on individual expenditures from SLI-PAC. Three affirmative votes are required to approve expenditures. The board consults on a regular basis with the lobbying team at Markee & Associates, Inc. regarding elections. Matt Markee & Thomas Cuomo meet with candidates and evaluate them, and do considerable research on previous election returns, district composition and other important factors. They arm your board of directors with an Oregon Election Guide, published by them, to help the board in these decisions. When appropriate, the board and your lobbyists consult with local SLAOR members regarding a candidate's qualifications and background. Candidates are evaluated on their openness, honesty and integrity, and their attitudes regarding the surplus line industry. The candidates' chances of winning are then evaluated by your lobbying team.

Through careful analysis, in the past few election cycles, roughly 90% of SLI-PAC contributions have gone to candidates who won their respective elections.

## SHOULDN'T I GIVE DIRECTLY TO THE CANDIDATE OF MY CHOICE?

Yes you should. Do you actually do it? But don't also overlook the greater impact that you gain by pooling your resources with your colleagues for a concentrated effect in key districts. SLI-PAC provides the mechanism for a well-organized, effective effort that coordinates the collective interests of the surplus line industry in Oregon. In a perfect world, you should do both.



## DO I RECEIVE A TAX BENEFIT BY GIVING TO SLI-PAC?

Contributions to SLI-PAC may not be deducted as charitable contributions or as a business expense for income tax purposes. However, your personal contribution is eligible for the Oregon political income tax credit. Which is \$50 for an individual tax return and \$100 for a joint tax return if your single income is less than \$100,000 or \$200,000 if filing jointly.

## HOW MUCH SHOULD I CONTRIBUTE?

Only you can answer that question, but remember that corporations, businesses, and individuals can contribute to SLI-PAC. There is no limit on how much you can give from either source. As you look around you, and you compare the surplus line atmosphere in Oregon to other states, you should think about how things are here compared to how they could be, and how they are in other places. We think Oregon is about the best place in the country to be in the surplus line business. That didn't happen by accident.

*Don't you think it's time  
for you to give back?*

*How do I give or pledge to SLI-PAC?*

*Contact:*

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