

# Society to Create Political Action Committee

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The Society's board of directors authorized the creation of a political action committee (PAC) at its December board meeting.

The PAC will allow Society members to make voluntary contributions, which can then be pooled to make contributions on behalf of the Society to state-level candidates, ballot question committees, legislative question committees, or other political action committees as needed to advance the interests of the Society's membership. The PAC will raise the Society's profile with the legislature as well as help the Society engage legislators when issues affecting the Profession come up, such as imposing sales tax on professional services.

Currently there are 241 PACs registered with the state that represent groups such as carpenters, nurses, credit unions, teachers, the Arkansas Farm Bureau, lobbyists and politicians. In addition, 42 state Societies have PACs.

An article in the October 10, 2011, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette described PACs as "...the electioneering arm of an interest group" and that PACs are "...basically a way for organized interests to engage in their First Amendment right of freedom of expression."

Committee members will be announced after the September 21, 2012, board meeting. The Society is currently implementing the ability for members to make contributions online through the web site. Until then, members wishing to contribute may send a check to: ASCPA PAC, 11300 Executive Center Drive, Little Rock, AR 72211. Members will also have the option to contribute on their 2013 membership dues statement, which will be emailed in December, 2012.

Watch upcoming newsletters for more information regarding the PAC. If you have questions or need additional information contact Ron Pitts at [rpitts@arcpa.org](mailto:rpitts@arcpa.org) or (501) 664-8739.