



NABPAC

A STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO ATTACKS ON CORPORATE PACs

November 7, 2018



We represent more than 240 American corporate and trade association political action committees (“PACs”).

These organizations employ and represent, as members, millions of hard-working American citizens, who voluntarily contribute a small percentage of their after-tax income to support their company’s or trade association’s PAC.

Employees and association members choose to participate in PACs because they want their collective voices heard on the public policy issues that face their industry.

When a politician says that he or she doesn’t want to accept money from corporate and trade association PACs, what they mean is they refuse to accept campaign contributions from hardworking Americans.

After all, it’s illegal for corporations to give campaign contributions to candidates running for federal office for the U.S. House, U.S. Senate, and the presidency.

PACs are an essential part of our democratic process.

Critics of the current campaign system espouse “people, not PACs.” But that is a misleading and unfortunate characterization of our campaign system. Indeed, PACs are the most transparent and most effective manifestation of people participating in our federal election process because they publicly disclose who contributes to them and who they, in turn, contribute to. You could very well say without the American people; there would be no PACs.

PACs make our democracy more inclusive. They represent democracy in action by providing the opportunity for more people to effectively participate in the democratic process.

We believe it is necessary to set the record straight about corporate and trade association PACs and clearing up any misconceptions before inaccuracies continue to spread.



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