

## **LEADING THE CHARGE**

oday, members of the Self-Insurance Institute of America, Inc. (SIIA) face an ongoing slate of federal legislative and regulatory issues. The number and importance of issues debated in Washington, D.C. have increased exponentially. Ranging from policy issues, such as stop-loss, captives, protecting ERISA, and healthcare issues in general, industry issues are more tied to D.C. politics than at any time in our history. Increasingly, your business and customers are impacted by regulation, legislation and various government activities, such as healthcare reform, tax, and potential regulatory and legislative action. All of these reasons make it even more important to help elect candidates to federal office who understand our issues.

SIPAC makes contributions to federal candidates who are likely to support policiws beneficial to the self-insurance industry. This strategy allows representatives from the Self-Insurance Institute of America(SIIA) to directly engage with key policymakers and their staff to promote a legislative agenda that is in the best interest of the self-insurance marketplace.

When lawmakers are given the facts they need to better understand out industry, they are more prepared to enact responsible and thoughtful laws that enable our industry to grow, be competivitye, and better serve the millions of consumers we represent.

SIIA and its members formed the Self-Insurance Political Action Committee (SIPAC) to raise our profile with lawmakers involved in key policy discussions and to enhance our advocacy on important issues affecting the well being of our industry.



## **LEADING THE CHARGE**

SIPAC has a strong legacy of involvement in policy issues affecting members. For years, SIPAC has been building connections with SIIA members and their representatives in Washington, both Congressmen and Senators.

As an additional tool for SIIA and its members to engage with policymakers and impact legislation, SIPAC forges strategic partnerships that align with the association's principles, and allows it to contribute to the political process on a bipartisan basis. While this is certainly not a new endeavor for SIIA, the renewed focus is a key element within the overall political and policy strategy aimed at building and strengthening key relationships.

SIPAC uses contributions from members like you to offer a unified industry voice in Washington, advocating for issues and establishing critical and ongoing relationships with key federal candidates. Being actively involved is important in protecting

and growing our industry. Throughout the year, SIIA memebers take time out of their busy schedules to travel to Washington, D.C to meet with members of Congress and their staff. Just as important, your contribution increases our voice in Washington D.C., where many voices can get lost.

THE POLITICAL
VOICE OFTHE
SELF-INSURANCE
MARKETPLACE



# SIPAC IN ACTION

From meeting with Congressional Members to participating in a significant number of exclusive events for Congressional Members of both parties who are involved with our issues, SIPAC has been able to make an impact in Washington.

One way SIPAC works to ensure our voice is heard is through fund-raising events. Through the contributions and engagement of members, SIPAC is able to organize various events throughout the year to aid in growing relationships in Washington and educating Congressional Members on key topics affecting our industry. SIPAC is able to better leverage these fund-raising events by inviting other like-minded organizations to attend. This extends and amplifies SIIA's reputation among members of Congress, their staffs and our colleague organizations.

As a result of being able to build stronger relationships with Congress-members and key staff members, SIIA's healthcare expertise has been utilized in the position statements of Senators and Resentatives, bills being introduced to committees, and strong support to continuing the self-insurance industry.





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### What is a PAC?

A federal Political Action Committee, or PAC, is an entity registered with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) for the purpose of raising funds from eligible individuals in order to spend money on the election or defeat of federal political

candidates. SIPAC will be dedicated to supporting business growth and opportunities across the alternative risk transfer and self-insurance industries.

#### Who will receive contributions from SIPAC?

SIPAC will contribute to political candidates who support and protect policies important to the development and growth of the self-insurance industry and its employees. Candidates may also be evaluated based on representation of the industry or members, demonstrated policy leadership, alignment with business objectives, and policy positions important to the industry.

# Will SIPAC publicly endorse or support political candidates?

While the PAC will contribute funding to candidates who support legislation and policy supportive of the key industry objectives, such contributions will not be deemed as a public endorsement of the candidate.

### Will SIPAC support any specific political party?

How will it maintain a balance between parties? SIPAC will operate completely independent of any party. Candidates requesting contributions will be judged strictly on their own merits. The PAC Board will seek to distribute contributions appropriately to candidates and between political parties.



Through member contributions, SIPAC gives a voice in electoral and legislative processes that impact self-insurance through political contributions to federal candidates. Of course, the decision to contribute to the PAC is voluntary and entirely your own. Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible to contribute. All contributors will be recognized in upcoming editions of the SIPAC newsletter and at future SIIA conferences.

### Are all members eligible to donate to SIPAC?

All citizens of the United States (including Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and other U.S. territories) and permanent resident aliens (green card holders residing in the United States) may contribute to the PAC. Foreign nationals, including individuals who are not citizens of the United States or not lawfully admitted for permanent residence, may not contribute to the PAC.

## Who may be solicited for PAC donations?

We will only solicit eligible exempt employees. The PAC will not solicit external vendors and does not intend to solicit shareholders who are not otherwise eligible exempt employees.

## Are donations to the SIPAC voluntary?

Yes, federal law clearly states that individual contributions to PACs must be voluntary and will not affect employment status or performance assessment.

#### Is there a PAC donation limit?

There is a \$5,000 contribution limit in any one year from an individual contributor. Spouses each have separate \$5,000 limits, even if only one of them works for the Association or its members. There is no minimum contribution limit.

#### Are PAC donations tax- deductible?

No, under IRS, rules individual contributions to PACs are not tax- deductible.

#### Do associations similar to SIIA have PACs?

Yes, associations across the spectrum operate PACs. Over 10,000 companies and associations currently report the operations of a political action committee to the FEC.









The Self-Insurance Political Action Committee (SIPAC) was established to enhance advocacy work in Washington for members of the Self-Insurance Institute of America (SIIA). SIIA formed SIPAC to raise its profile with lawmakers involved in these policy discussions and to enhance our advocacy on these and other important issues affecting the well being of our business and industry.

