The National Association of REALTORS® President’s Circle is a unique program that matches individual REALTORS® to candidates running for reelection or for higher office. Among national trade associations, only NAR has developed a program designed to support our most stalwart Capitol Hill champions in their elections.

Launched in 2003, the President’s Circle identifies candidates whose position in Congress and support for REALTOR® legislative initiatives is unparalleled. Like all REALTOR® political support, the candidates chosen for inclusion in the President’s Circle program must meet requirements set by the national RPAC Disbursement Trustees. The result is a group of candidates, of both political parties, reflecting our REALTOR® Party strategy, who have placed a primary focus of their legislative activities on the promotion and protection of the real estate industry. Given the expense and complexity of modern campaigns, the resources allocated by individual REALTORS® to President’s Circle candidates can, quite simply, mean the difference between victory and defeat.

As the cost of elections spirals upward, RPAC, like all federal political action committees (PACs), is limited by federal law to contributing a total of $10,000 to a candidate per cycle. The President’s Circle program allows REALTORS® to supplement RPAC financial support to candidates to help ensure that Congress has members who understand the role of real property ownership for the economy, but also in creating stable communities with a high quality of life.

The number of candidates targeted to receive President’s Circle support reflects the current balance of power in Congress between the two parties, resulting in 23 Republican candidates supported in the two-year election cycle and 17 Democrats. For the President’s Circle program to achieve maximum impact, it has to be limited to those candidates in key positions who have the ability to advance our industry. The selection of the President’s Circle candidates is not intentionally geographically balanced, though over the course of the program’s history, targets have come from over 47 states. However, some states may have more candidates in any given election cycle. This reflects the micro-targeting of resources to the champions of the REALTOR® agenda regardless of where they hail from, since federal public policy affects us all evenly.
I. Candidate Contributions

The REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC) was the largest contributor to candidates during the 2018 federal election cycle. Disbursing roughly $5 million in direct contributions to federal candidates, Leadership Political Action Committees (LPACs) and National Political Party Committees RPAC achieved a 93% success rate in all of our races!

Direct contributions made by RPAC were given to both Republican (51%) and Democratic candidates (49%) — one of the most bipartisan major PAC in the country.

Of the 35 Senate races, RPAC supported:
- 23 Democratic incumbents
- 6 Republican incumbents
- 2 Republicans in open seats, 1 Republican challenger
- 1 Democrat in an open seat
- Neutral in 2 Senate races

22 of 24 Democratic candidates were successful while 7 of 9 Republican candidates won. Three incumbent Senators and one challenger lost.

Of the 435 House races, RPAC supported 410 candidates, while staying neutral in 25 races. All but one of the 192 Democratic candidates (including 17 of 18 open seat candidates) were successful, while 191 of 218 Republicans won (including 27 of 32 open seat candidates).

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II. President’s Circle
RPAC raised $5 million during 2017-2018 in direct contributions from REALTORS® and at NAR-hosted fundraisers. Forty one candidates deserving of REALTOR® support were identified, with 21 of these candidates winning their races while 10 did not face reelection.

III. Opportunity Races
(Advocacy to Membership only)

IV. Independent Expenditures (IE)
(Advocacy to General Public)
RPAC CONDUCTED FIFTEEN I.E.’S IN THE 2017-2018 CYCLE
2 PRIMARY AND 13 GENERAL ELECTION

Six Wins in the General Election:
- Katie Porter (D-CA45) challenger
- Rep. Mike Coffman (R-CO06) - unsuccessful
- Rep. Andy Barr (R-KY06)
- Rep. Leonard Lance (R-NJ07) - unsuccessful
- Jeff Van Drew (D-NJ02) in an open seat
- Rep. John Faso (R-NY19) - unsuccessful
- Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX32) - unsuccessful
- Rep. John Culberson (R-TX07) - unsuccessful
- Rep. Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ Sen) in an open seat
- Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OHSen)
- Sen. Dean Heller (R-NVSen) - unsuccessful
- Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-INSen) - unsuccessful
- Sen. Cindy Hyde Smith (R-MSSen)

V. Total 2018 Cycle Political Funding
$28.35 million

383/410 HOUSE = 93%
29/33 SENATE = 88%
412/433 TOTAL = 93%

II. President’s Circle

III. Opportunity Races

IV. Independent Expenditures (IE)

V. Total 2018 Cycle Political Funding

2017 CANDIDATES
Join NAR in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC), culminating in a special celebration during the 2019 REALTOR® Legislative Meetings in May.

Stay tuned to realtorparty.realtor/rpac50 for photos, videos and graphics to honor the 50 years of REALTOR® successes safeguarding the American Dream of homeownership.