McDonald's PAC: Political Engagement Policy and Criteria

The McDonald's Political Action Committee (McDonald's PAC) was established with the purposes of protection, preservation, and furtherance of good government, the private enterprise system and, in particular, the business climate within which the McDonald's system operates. Our ability to reach our potential is enhanced when government policies promote growth that creates jobs, encourages investment in our business, supports our System, employees, franchisees, and communities in which McDonald's restaurants operate.

The McDonald's System plays a visible and proactive role in various policy discussions and makes our views clear to those establishing government policies that can influence our global business environment. The process of determining which candidates our PAC should support is complex. In general, we seek to support candidates who support the McDonald's business, can be champions of our policy goals and who have particular influence on the issues most important to the system. We recognize that the candidates we support may not agree with us on all issues, nor do we endorse all of theirs.

To enhance our future engagement and the PAC's overall operations, the McDonald's PAC updated its contribution criteria to determine which candidates to consider for support. McDonald's PAC is bipartisan and maintains a goal of dividing contributions within a 55-45 percent ratio between the two major parties. McDonald's PAC does not contribute to presidential campaigns, Super PACs or independent expenditure committees.

Our PAC Board and government affairs team will evaluate a candidate's eligibility to receive a political contribution based on the following criteria (not listed in order of importance:

1. Understands policy issues of importance to the McDonald's System;

2. Holds an elected leadership position and/or serves on a key Committee with jurisdiction over policy issues of importance to the McDonald's System;

3. Former McDonald's crew member, owner-operator, or someone previously involved in the McDonald's System;

4. Exhibits a commitment to the McDonald's System;

5. Exhibits demonstrated and on-going commitment to the furtherance of good government, respect for the democratic process, and adherence to the rule of law;

6. Possesses leadership qualities as an emerging leader.

No single issue or criteria category will determine whether a candidate does or does not receive a contribution. Political contributions are evaluated every election cycle. McDonald's PAC may support a candidate in one election cycle, and subsequently elect to withhold future support at any time based on the criteria outlined above or for other reasons. Information on all of the McDonald's PAC's political contributions is publicly available through the Federal Election Commission's website.