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**Political Action Committee (PAC) Statewide Primary Race Recommendations**

The combined PAC-LEG committees meet three (3) times to offer Statewide Legislative Recommendations to the Executive Board and House of Delegates for the upcoming March 20, 2012 statewide primary. The Political Action Committee members used voting records, questionnaires submitted by candidates and incumbents, interviews, and other information to make a recommendation to endorse candidates. The two criteria we considered when evaluating candidates are **acceptable** to our membership and **electable** on Election Day. Our overall goal is to increase the number of legislators in General Assembly who understand the needs of public education, teachers, PRSPs, and our students.

**Acceptable**

Is the candidate acceptable? Are they advocates for public education, our teachers and PSRPs? Will they support working families?

* **Record**
* **Position on education issues**
* **Relationship/attitude w/ CTU Leadership and Operatives**

**Electable**

* Can the candidate win the election?

**No Endorsement**

* A no endorsement in a race could mean that there was strong disagreement within the committee regarding the candidates and the committee was unable to reach a consensus. If there is a no endorsement, the committee believed that the best decision is to remain neutral and maintain open lines of communication with both candidates. The combined PAC—Legislative Committee could not conclude which candidate to endorsement.
* *The committee did the following for each contested race that ended in a no endorsement:*
  + **Consideration of the viability of the campaign.**
  + **Evaluation of the overall presentation of the candidate or incumbent.**
  + **Review of endorsements from partner organizations and labor partners.**
  + **Review of candidates’ previous campaign experience.**
  + **Assessment of campaign resources, polling data, etc.**
  + **Measurement of the vulnerability of other candidates**
  + **Review of the candidate’s sponsorship of bills or other “behind the scenes” help offered by the candidate that is not reflected in their voting record.**
  + **Judgment of whether influence to be gained or lost with the likely winner if another candidate is endorsed.**

**After the Endorsement**

After we make the endorsement, we must work to ensure that the candidate who wins represents our interest.

**Canvass**

* We must knock on the doors of potential voters and ensure their vote for our candidate of choice.

**Phone Bank**

* We must make phone calls to members in the districts to make sure their household will vote for our candidate.

**Contribute**

* While our power is in member mobilization, we still cannot neglect the power of financial resources. If you contribute to our PAC, consider increasing your contribution. If you do not contribute, please do so now! Our political agenda will inform our legislative capabilities.

SGD:Oteg/743-lmn