POLS 205

American National Government

Pressure Unit – Interest groups and Campaign Finance

Under Pressure!

Interest Groups and Campaign Contributions

Alexis de \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1805–59)

Americans combine to give fêtes, found seminaries, build churches, distribute books, and send missionaries to the antipodes. Hospitals, prisons, and schools take shape in that way. Finally, if they want to proclaim a truth or propagate some feeling by the encouragement of a great example, they form an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. In every case, at the head of any new undertaking, where in France you would find the government or in England some territorial magnate, in the United States you are sure to find an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I have come across several types of association in America of which, I confess, I had not previously the slightest conception, and I have often admired the extreme skill they show in proposing a common object for the exertions of very many and in inducing them voluntarily to pursue it.

Interest Groups

Link people to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by organizing those with similar viewpoints on a specific \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ area and presenting these views to (not necessarily elected) government officials.

The incredible \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of American life is reflected in the vast array of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seeking to influence our political process!

Freedom of Association

With a Nic-Nac, Paddy PAC, give a Pol a Bone…

Trade \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The NEA

http://www.nea.org/

*The National \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Association is the nation’s largest professional employee organization, representing more than 3.2 million elementary and secondary teachers, higher education faculty, education support personnel, school administrators, retired educators, and students preparing to become teachers.*

United Automobile Workers

Members of the Tennessee UAW visited with Rep. Ford during their annual legislative conference where legislative issues relating to foreign trade and union rights were a top priority.

AFL/CIO

http://www.aflcio.org/

http://www.aflcio.org/joinaunion/voiceatwork/efca/

Tell Congress…

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Associations

The American \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Association

The American Bar Association

The National Association of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The American Society for Public Administration

Environmentalists

Business Groups

http://www.nam.org/s\_nam/index.asp

Trade or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Groups

http://www.cement.org/

http://www.npga.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1720

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

http://www.fb.org/

Ethnic Lobbies

http://www.naacp.org/

http://lulac.org/

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Government Groups

http://www.commoncause.org/site/pp.asp?c=dkLNK1MQIwG&b=186966

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Associations

http://www.cc.org/

http://www.sclcnational.org/

http://www.ncccusa.org/

One of these things is NOT like the other….

http://www.citizenlink.com/

Why not? \_\_\_\_\_ exemptions and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rules.

Specialty Interests

Got Milk?

Campaign Contributions

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Link people to government by organizing those with similar viewpoints on a specific policy area and presenting these views to (not necessarily elected) government officials.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the Mother’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Politics, thus…

Interest groups contribute money to help get \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ elected who support their issues.

Money Makes the World Go Around…

Bribes vs Contributions:

None of this is paid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the candidates. (That would land you in jail)

None of this is meant to be a straight trade for votes; no *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*. (That would get you censured)

Campaign Contributions

Party Contributions

Political Action Committees

Organizations set up to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the political process by raising funds from their members and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that money to candidates

But there are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PACS-Who Are the Big Guns?

Who would you guess is the biggest PAC?

http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/toppacs.php?Type=C&cycle=2010

Note: How many at the top are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

Also note the changes from 2008 to 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PAC’s

Ways for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to collect, bundle and funnel campaign contributions to other politicians.

Allows them to make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Harry Reid’s Page

http://www.giveemhellharry.com/

http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/industry.php?txt=Q03&cycle=2010

And Then the World Exploded!

Introducing… The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(or independent expenditure-only committees)

Brought to you via

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ vs the FEC (2010) Supremes

SpeechNow.org vs the FEC (2010) DC Circuit

And When I Say Exploded, I Mean BOOOOM!

As of February 26, 2012, 342 groups organized as Super PACs have reported total receipts of $130,334,342 and total independent expenditures of $61,418,349 in the 2012 cycle.

(That’s mostly the Republican Presidential Primary. Just you wait until the fall!)

Super PACs

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ contributions from

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

unions

associations and

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unlimited \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ advocate for or against political candidates.

Report \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the Federal Election Commission on a monthly or quarterly basis -- the Super PAC's choice -- as a traditional PAC would.

Unlike traditional PACs, Super PACs are prohibited from donating money \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to political candidates

Key words: no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ contact with the candidate.

(From Open Secrets.org)

A Bridge Too Far?

Interest groups have been called a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over which people and players can reach the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ game.

Describe the bridge. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bridge

Why Am I Telling You All This?

Because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and political \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in all their forms have a significant impact on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ choices.