



# NEWS RELEASE

N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission

Contact Scott A. Weiner  
(609) 292-8700

For Release: IMMEDIATELY  
July 13, 1983

During the 1983 primary thirty-seven Political Action Committees (PACs) reported making contributions totalling \$163,498 to legislative candidates through June 22, 1983, the closing date of the most recent campaign finance report required to be filed with the Commission. This figure represents an increase of 138 percent over the 1981 primary when \$68,740 was reported as being contributed to legislative candidates.

This information is contained as part of a report which was published today by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission concerning contributions by Political Action Committees, (PACs) to Legislative candidates during the June 1983 Primary Election.

The five largest PAC contributors to legislative candidates were: NJ Dental PAC, \$31,800; LEGAL, \$26,208; Jersey Bankers PAC, \$15,535; Builders PAC, \$12,559; and Physical Therapists PAC, \$12,159. These five PACs contributed a combined total of \$98,218, which represents 60 percent of the total PAC contributions.

During the 1983 primary PACs gave \$81,858 to Senate candidates and \$81,640 to Assembly candidates. Forty-eight Senate candidates received contributions from PACs; nearly one-half (22) received PAC contributions totalling more than \$1,000. Of these 22 Senatorial candidates, 19 were either incumbent Senators or Assemblymen running for Senate. In the Assembly, 64 candidates received contributions from PACs with 26 receiving total PAC contributions of \$1,000 or more. Twenty-four of these candidates were incumbent legislators.

The 1983 primary showed a increase in PAC contributions to candidates in uncontested primaries. In 1981, \$20,465, representing 29.8 percent of PAC contributions to legislative candidates, went to candidates in uncontested primaries. In 1983, the amount increased to \$69,429, or 42.5 percent of the total PAC contributions to legislative candidates.

Scott A. Weiner, Executive Director of the Commission stated that "While the report confirms the general expectation of increased financial activity by PACs, one should not attempt to identify any single factor as being responsible for that growth. In addition, while contribution levels are expected to rise during the 1983 General Election, it is not possible to predict a rate or amount".

The first campaign finance report pertaining to the November 1983 Election must be filed by the Commission on candidates and political committees 25 days before the election. For 1983, the first recorded date will be on October 14, 1983.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the report may do so by contacting the N.J. Law Enforcement Commission.