

Greetings to all Alabama psychologists:

November, 2009

This is going to be an exciting year for Alabama politics and you can participate in this excitement through contributions to the Alabama Psychological Association's Professional Psychology Political Action Committee (PPPAC)!

We had three special elections for Alabama Senate positions (districts 7, 19 and 22), and one for the Alabama House (district 6). All the senators who vacated these positions were on the Senate Health Committee, which typically gets issues related to mental health and psychology. The people who filled those vacant seats will also be on the Health Committee—Mark Keahey of Baldwin County, Priscilla Dunmof Jefferson County, and Paul Sanford of Huntsville.

The primaries for the entire Alabama House and Senate will be here before you know it, on June 1, 2010. Starting June 1, 2009, contributions can be made to the candidates for the 2010 elections. I know that seems a long time away, but it's not. Candidates have already been declaring their intentions, with a number of incumbents saying that they will not be seeking reelection. The Speaker of the House, Seth Hammett, has said he will not run, and there will also be some representatives seeking senate seats, thus adding more turnover in the Alabama House.

Why am I telling you this? With all these changes, we in psychology have a wonderful opportunity to get in on the ground level with a number of folks who can help us in the future. We also need to continue supporting our friends who will continue to be in office. You have heard me say over and over again that there are three parts to legislative advocacy—developing solid relationships with your legislators, staying in touch with them on a regular basis, and supporting them financially through political giving.

This letter is to ask you to consider increasing your PAC contributions to the Alabama Psychological Association's Professional Psychology Political Action Committee (PPPAC). If you have not already made a contribution then I am asking you to start now. I know that we will never compete with the level of contributions made by some of the other professional groups, but I do believe that political giving from us can make a difference. You can also make a difference by giving individually to candidates of your own choice.

Along with making a contribution to the PPPAC, please consider getting to know the candidates during the next year, putting signs in your yards, and making yourself visible within the campaigns of these candidates. It helps tremendously to be able to call up your state representative or senator, and have them know who you are before you ask them for something specific.

We have not had a lot to ask our legislators over the last several years. However, over the next few years, we will be dealing with scope of practice issues, prescriptive authority for properly trained psychologists, and the impact of healthcare reform on us and our clients. These issues will affect all of us, and it would be nice if we had our foot in the door before it is slammed shut on us.

Attached is the PPPAC form. Notice that you can contribute monthly, quarterly or annually. You can write a personal check to PPPAC, and send it with the notice, or ask me to remind you via email to send your contributions on a regular basis.

Thanks for your support.

Linda Alverson-Eiland, Ph.D.
PPPAC treasurer

PPPAC 2009 Contribution

Yes, I support the PPPAC. I am sending my personal check (no company checks, please) for the following amount as my contribution to the PPPAC.

- _____ \$100-199 **General Member**
- _____ \$200-399 **Contributing Member**
- _____ \$400-499 **Sustaining Member**
- _____ \$500-749 **Silver Patron Member**
- _____ \$750-999 **Gold Patron member**
- _____ \$1000-1499 **Benefactor**
- _____ \$1500 or more **Most Wonderful Supporter**

- _____ **Quarterly Contributor (I have enclosed my first quarterly contribution of at least \$50)**
I pledge to give at least _____ each quarter for the next 4 quarters.

- _____ **Monthly Contributor (I have enclosed my first monthly contribution of at least \$20)**
I pledge to give at least _____ each month for the next 12 months.

(Your email for reminders _____)
If you don't hear from me to verify this as the correct email, please contact me at alversoneiland@gmail.com

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____

Phone _____

Email _____ (please)

Home Zip (plus four) _____ (for legislative district identification)

Your Alabama Senator _____ Alabama Representative _____

Are you a member of the Alabama Psychological Association? Yes No

Please return this form, along with personal check written to PPPAC (Professional Psychologists Political Action Committee), to:

PPPAC
P.O. Box 97
Montgomery, Alabama 36101
alversoneiland@gmail.com