

ICYMI: APCIAs 2021 POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT CAMPAIGN

This summer APCIAs launched an email campaign to raise awareness of our Political Engagement (PE) program and efforts. Our email campaign was focused on providing APCIAs members, like you, with more information on our PE initiatives, including our grassroots program, the Voice of America's Insurers (VAI), as well as our federal political action committee, Insuring America PAC.

In case you missed the campaign, or would like a refresher, we've included links to three of the emails in the series below:

[A Political Engagement resource guide](#) introducing APCIAs PE team and highlighting member company stories that illustrate the value of VAI and the Insuring America PAC for members and employees alike.

[An overview of the Voice of America's Insurers program](#), including tips for maximizing employee participation in APCIAs PE efforts through grassroots engagement.

[An overview of Insuring America PAC](#), including the role of the PAC and three things to know about how it was set up, details about membership and disbursements, as well as disbursement principles.

With your partnership, we can make the property casualty insurance industry voice stronger in 2021 and beyond.

-Bethany Dame, Assistant Vice President, Political Engagement & Grassroots
-Bridget Sewell, Assistant Vice President, Political Engagement & PAC

TX FARM BUREAU DONOR DINNER



A Banner Event in the Lone Star State!

Mike Gerik, Executive Vice President at Texas Farm Bureau Insurance and Vice Chair of Insuring America PAC hosted a dinner in late July. APCIAs President and CEO David Sampson was able to join along with special guest Texas State Representative Tom Oliverson. Rep. Oliverson chairs the House Insurance Committee and has been a long-time advocate on legislation important to our business and customers, including APCIAs commercial modernization law. Texas Farm Bureau Insurance is Insuring America PAC's top company campaign contributor — employees raised over \$48,000 in voluntary receipts last year!

OFF-YEAR RACES OFFER GLIMPSE INTO 2022 ELECTIONS

They may seem a bit far off, but the 2022 elections are already generating a fair amount of buzz, particularly given the impact they will have on the balance of power in Washington as Democrats try to defend their narrow majorities in both chambers of Congress. Of course, it's too soon to know how the political landscape will change in a little over a year, but upcoming off-year races in Virginia and New Jersey could provide some indication into how voters are leaning, at least at the state level.

As Virginia Goes, so Goes the Nation?

Virginia voters will take to the polls on November 2 to replace term-limited Governor Ralph Northam (D) as well as elect a lieutenant governor, attorney general, and a number of municipal races. Voters will also decide the shape of their next House of Delegates.

Prognosticators are watching these races closely, as Virginia's "off-year gubernatorial races have historically served as a temperature check for the party controlling the White House." The winner of every gubernatorial election in the state since 1977, except for 2013, has been from the opposite party of the president's. Currently, former Governor Terry McAuliffe (D), running again this year, is leading ex-hedge fund manager Glenn Youngkin by a 5 percent margin, according to recent polls by RealClearPolitics.

In the House, Democrats will look to defend a razor-thin majority, as Republicans need just six seats to flip control of the chamber. Given that the state shifted heavily in favor of Democrats under President Trump—Republicans lost 21 net seats—many question whether Democrats will be able to sustain that momentum without Trump on

the ballot. With just a few months left, Virginia's elections could be a bellwether for the 2022 elections.

New Jersey Reflects Recent Voting Trends

Voters in New Jersey will also be voting in their state's gubernatorial and lieutenant gubernatorial elections—as well as both chambers of the New Jersey State Legislature and various municipal, school board, and local races. Things aren't quite as close in New Jersey as they are in Virginia, especially at the state executive level.

The race for governor has come down to incumbent Governor Phil Murphy (D) and Republican challenger Jack Ciattarelli. According to a recent poll, Governor Murphy holds a double-digit lead over Ciattarelli, who is struggling with a lack of name recognition. That poll shows the Governor leading 52-36%.

With Democrats holding much wider margins of power in both chambers of the legislature—52 D - 28 R in the General Assembly and 25 D - 14 R in the Senate—these races won't be as close to call. However, it will be interesting to see how the pandemic continues to impact elections, as voters continue to turn to mail-in ballots to avoid in-person voting. This shift could impact everything from turnout to how long it takes to tabulate results.

Stay Informed

Be sure to check the APCIAs Votes website throughout the year for up-to-date information on the elections happening in your state. With your help we can make sure our industry's voice is heard on Election Day!

GRASSROOTS ISSUE SPOTLIGHT: LAWSUIT ABUSE

As you likely know, lawsuit abuse is one of the top issues facing insurers and a priority of APCIAs. No one is immune to the impact of lawsuit abuse—the spiraling legal costs impact individuals, families, businesses, communities, and the entire economy. All too often, trial lawyers use the threat of burdensome lawsuits for their own financial gain, delaying injured parties from receiving much-needed relief.

That is why APCIAs is working with policymakers, industry leaders, consumers, and the business community across the country to enact meaningful reforms. Our focus is on championing and advancing a balanced civil justice system—one that is fair to all parties, promptly resolves legitimate claims, and increases certainty and predictability for all participants. Meaningful reforms will help reign in lawsuit abuse, protecting families and businesses still facing hardships from the COVID-19 crisis while improving the predictability of the U.S. litigation system and giving businesses the confidence to re-open and re-hire workers, thereby accelerating our economic recovery.

As lawsuit reform issues arise in your state, we will be reaching out to you with ways that you can get involved and make your voice heard. In the meantime, [visit the APCIAs website](#) to learn more.

CANDIDATE SPOTLIGHT

How does the Insuring America PAC Contributions Committee decide to support a candidate? A balanced scorecard consisting of thoughtful criteria guides every decision.

Throughout the year, we'll be highlighting industry champions who meet those standards and through the PAC's support, received the Insuring America PAC seal of approval.





Rep. Stephanie Murphy D-FL-07

[Click here](#) to read Representative Murphy's full spotlight.

KEY DATES

- [Virtual Advocacy Planning Conference](#): October 5-7
- [APCIAs Annual Meeting](#): October 31-November 2, Denver, CO
- [Election Dates](#)
 - New Jersey Gubernatorial & Legislative General Election: November 2
 - Voter Registration Deadline: 10/12
 - Early Voting: 9/18 - 11/1
 - Absentee Ballot Request Deadline: 10/26 (by mail), 11/1 (in-person)
 - Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: 11/2 (postmarked), 11/2 (in-person)
 - Virginia Gubernatorial & House of Delegates General Election: November 2
 - Voter Registration Deadline: 10/11
 - Early Voting: 9/18 - 10/30
 - Absentee Ballot Request Deadline: 10/22 (by mail), 10/30 (in-person)
 - Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: 11/2 (postmarked), 11/2 (in-person)
- [Fundraisers](#)
 - [Tuesdays](#), October 5th: honoring Rep. Joe Morelle (D-NY)
 - [Tuesday](#), October 19th: honoring Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-MI)
 - [TBD](#): honoring Chairman Richard Neal (D-MA)

LEARN MORE

www.voiceofamericasinsurers.org

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