

House of Delegates Resolution Submission

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State West Virginia Society

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Resolution Information

Resolution

Resolved that_ the AARC Board of Directors create, and budget funds dedicated to providing affiliate assistance with the express purpose of supporting affiliate PACT participation.

Executive Summary

A primary goal of the AARC is to support participation in advocacy events. Although funding exists to support opportunities for affiliates to seek financial assistance through the AARC for Delegate participation in both the Summer Forum and International Congress meetings, limited opportunities are available to support affiliates to participate in Political Action Contact Team (PACT) activities. Several state affiliates are unable to support representatives in attending the annual PACT fly-in, and there are not enough funds currently allocated to the Delegate Assistance Fund to consider support specifically for PACT initiatives. The creation of a separate account to assist affiliate representatives in participating in these activities directly supports the AARC strategic plan pillar of advocacy by providing funds dedicated to ensuring increased participation in professional legislative activities. An annual appropriation of \$20,000 is requested to create a PACT assistance fund.

Desired Outcome

To decrease financial barriers for affiliates to participate in PACT activities to increase legislative engagement and affiliate relations with their representative

Advancement of AARC and State affiliates political action initiatives

Increased co-sponsors of AARC-supported legislation

Strengths

Support equity of representation for affiliates who demonstrate financial responsibility but who may not be able to generate the degree of revenue required to participate in affiliate representation.

Problems

Due to geographic and demographic variances throughout the United States, some affiliates will always be unable to generate enough revenue to participate consistently in affiliate activities. However, the AARC has funds to help support equity for affiliates who demonstrate fiscal responsibility and may represent additional strength in advocacy opportunities.

An average of ten affiliates have not participated in the fly-in over the last two years. This fund does not address barriers such as having affiliate PACT volunteers unless the lack of volunteers is related to affiliate financial constraints.

Opportunities

The profession has several large initiatives on the horizon, and advocacy will play a significant role in gaining momentum and support from legislators at both the state and national levels. The framework for delegate assistance currently exists within the framework of the AARC HOD through the Delegate Assistance Committee. The committee structure currently supports the addition of this resolution. Therefore, very little infrastructure is needed to facilitate the addition of PACT assistance. Increased incentives for smaller affiliates to recruit PACT representation to affiliate boards. Strengthening of the AARC/affiliate connections towards common goals.

Barriers

Additional allocation of funding

Work related to ensuring transparency of the distribution of support

Impact

General Membership

No

HOD

Yes

AARC Officers & BOD

Yes

State/Federal Legislation

Yes

CoARC

No

AARC Bylaws

No

Affiliates

Yes

Executive Office

No

NBRC

No

Other

No

Financial Impact

Annual allocation of \$20,000.

Cost Estimate

Annual allocation of \$20,000.

Resources Required

Some staff assistance is needed to ensure application materials align with AARC standards, as well as the time needed to communicate the opportunity to affiliates (e.g., website directives). This time commitment is estimated at approximately 3 hours, annually

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Volunteer Resources

The HOD Delegate Assistance Committee currently exists and will be asked to incorporate the charge of this fund and associated application and award workload.

Approximately 14 additional hours of committee volunteer hours will be needed for affiliate application support, screening, and the committee review meeting.

Relationship to AARC Strategic Plan

Develop art and science of RC

No

Increase Membership

No

Increase organizational effectiveness

Yes

Develop human resources

No

Increase financial resources

Yes

Not related

No