

Apply Now to Join LWMVE PAC Study Committee

For the first time since completion of the University System Study in 2000, the delegates at LWVME Convention 2007 voted a major new study on political action committees and their role in candidate elections in Maine.

This LWVME study will focus on how PACs are funded, how they influence candidate elections, and what changes, if any, should be proposed to limit the influence of private money on elected officials. We will review the history of PACs over the last four general election cycles and examine such questions as who gives to whom -- corporate contributions, out of state contributions, grassroots organizations, individual donors; who are the principal officers, decision makers and fundraisers for PACs; how is the money spent on candidate campaigns, independent expenditures, other spending; what factors influence an elected official's decision whether to form or join a PAC; is there an appearance of corruption when candidates or elected officials raise unregulated private money.

The LWVME Board will be forming a Study Committee over the next several weeks. Members interested in working on this exciting new project should send an inquiry to lwvme@gwi.net.