

FP-PAC Spring eNewsletter

1 message

Family Physicians Political Action Committee

<fppac@familydocs.org>

Reply-To: Family Physicians Political Action Committee <fppac@familydocs.org>



Dear Colleague:

I want to start off with a HUGE thank you to our donors and activists so far in 2018! As you'll see in the sections that follow, we have had an incredibly active quarter — you have helped us **break all-time giving records at both the All Member Advocacy Meeting and Family Medicine Clinical Forum** and have shown up in force to meet with your representatives to make sure the voice of family medicine and your patients is heard. The Family Physicians Political Action Committee (FP-PAC) could not have accomplished what we have so far this year without your support. Thank you!

2018 is an incredibly important election year. The candidates of today are tomorrow's legislators. From Medi-Cal to liability protection to support for the family medicine workforce, crucial decisions on policy issues will be decided by the candidates who win in June and November. That's what makes your contribution and active involvement over the next six months more important than ever! Your donation will help push family physician-friendly candidates to victory. Your gift also ensures that family physicians and patient advocates have a seat at the table when consequential decisions are made.

Think about that - YOUR SUPPORT can help put a family medicine ally in office!

To those of you who have already contributed, we are so grateful to you for supporting our committed team of advocates. For those of you who haven't yet done so, there is no more critical time than NOW to support our efforts.

[CLICK HERE TO CONTRIBUTE](#)

Sincerely,



Jay W. Lee, MD, MPH, FAAFP
FP-PAC President

FP-PAC EVENTS

It is FP-PAC's mission to ensure policymakers are aware of family medicine's priorities and to help elect those who will further our cause. Thanks to all of our members who took time out of their busy schedules to deliver FP-PAC's message at events this spring.

FP-PAC Annual Reception

FP-PAC held its annual Donor "Thank You" Reception as part of the CAFP 2018 All Member Advocacy Meeting in Sacramento. This year we were joined by **Assemblymember Jim Cooper** (D – Elk Grove)! If you are an FP-PAC donor and would like to attend this special event, mark your calendars for the evening of March 10, 2019 at the Citizen Hotel in Sacramento!



Kim Yu, MD, FP-PAC Executive Director Adam Francis, Prashanth Bhat, MD and FP-PAC Board Member Walt Mills, MD at the FP-PAC Donor Thank You Reception on March 11

FP-PAC's Busiest Spring on Record!

CAFP members attended a flurry of fundraisers supporting their representatives this spring. In April, FP-PAC Board Member Jeremy Fish, MD started the action when he

joined **Asm. Rob Bonta** (D – Oakland) at a Warriors basketball game. Joy Melnikow, MD attended a party for **Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones**, a long-time CAFPA ally and Champion of Family Medicine award winner, appropriately held at the Museum of Medical History in Sacramento. FP-PAC Board Member and CAFPA President-elect Walt Mills, MD accompanied medical students, residents and colleagues at **Senator Bill Monning's** (D – Carmel) annual birthday bash. Sheryl Recinos, MD got in on the action at **Asm. Scott Wilk's** (R – Santa Clarita) Lobster Feast, where she rubbed elbows with several other politicians in attendance, including **Asm. Dante Acosta** (R – Simi Valley) and her local mayor, Laurene Weste.



Left to right: Insurance Commissioner Jones and Dr. Melnikow | Allen Bueno del Bosque, MD, Matthew Musselman, Senator Bill Monning, Jeffrey Lin, MD and Walt Mills, MD



Left to right: Sheryl Recinos, MD with Asm. Scott Wilk | Byron Recinos, Dr. Recinos and Asm. Dante Acosta

In May, FP-PAC sent a contingent of San Diego family physicians to a private party for **Asm. Brian Maieschein** (R – San Diego). CAFPA Legislative Affairs Committee Chair Carla Kakutani, MD joined **Senator Holly Mitchell** (D – Los Angeles) and **Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins** (D – San Diego) for dinner in wine country at Yountville's Bottega Napa Valley. James Barrett, MD represented FP-PAC at **Asm. Aguiar-Curry's** (D – Winters) fundraiser at the Silt Wine Company. CAFPA Solano – Napa Chapter President Rossan Chen, MD took in a Giants game with **Asm. Tim Grayson** (D – Concord). They had ample time to talk during the ballgame and connected on discussions about residency programs in the Assemblymember's district, what draws students to family medicine, Asm. Grayson's daughter's interest in going into medicine and his interest in touring the residency programs. Finally, Jose Arevalo, MD joined **Asm. Kevin McCarty** (D – Sacramento) at a local brewery.



Left to right: Steven Green, MD, David Bazzo, MD, Assemblymember Maienschein, Anthony "Fatch" Chong, MD and Melissa Campos, MD



Asm. Aguiar-Curry and James Barrett, MD



Senator Atkins addressing guests in Yountville



Asm. Grayson and Rossan Chen, MD cheer on the Giants



Asm. McCarthy and Jose Arevalo, MD

It is very important that FP-PAC representatives attend fundraisers so that legislative leaders know family physicians are politically active, particularly in their communities, and want to be seen as a resource on health care issues. With your continued support of FP-PAC, we can build strong relationships among legislators, candidates and family physicians.

FP-PAC Joins Forces with CAPP to Protect Access

FP-PAC representatives from across the state work to ensure that legislators understand the importance of California's landmark medical liability law, the [Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act \(MICRA\)](#). MICRA ensures patient access to health care providers by limiting growth in medical malpractice premiums and discouraging frivolous lawsuits against physicians. As part of our efforts, FP-PAC actively supports the leading MICRA defender in the state, Californians Allied for Patient Protection (CAPP), of which CAPP is a long-time member. Family physicians recently attended CAPP events for **Senator Henry Stern** (D – Canoga Park) and **Senator Anthony Portantino** (D – La Canada Flintridge) to ensure their awareness of the importance of MICRA.



Left to right: Shabana Tariq, MD, Jonathan Wong, MD, Sen. Stern, Elisabeth Levitt, MD and Leslie Johnson, MD



Monique George, MD and Sen. Stern



Kevin Rossi, MD and Sen. Portantino

Relationships Are the Foundation of Effective Work

As family docs, you know that relationships are at the heart of working effectively with patients. The same holds for FP-PAC's work with legislators and candidates. Ultimately, in sending family physicians to meet and mingle with candidates and elected representatives, our hope is to forge relationships with them. We want family physicians to be relied upon as a vital and knowledgeable resource to help educate and guide legislators when they are in the position of making important decisions that affect the health of your patients and your livelihood. When you get to know someone more deeply, you move from cocktail party small talk to meaningful conversation. Such was the case for Jasmeet Bains, MD, a Bakersfield-area physician who has gotten to know her representative, **Rudy Salas** (D – Bakersfield), over the years. When FP-PAC sent her to attend Asm. Salas's birthday event at Universal Studios, not only did she enjoy herself, she was able to jump easily into deeper dialogue. "The event was a lot of fun. I arrived for breakfast and connected with Rudy Salas and his family. He remembered my father from previous years. I discussed with him my work on a policy commission to which I've been appointed and we talked about the importance of increasing the Primary Care Workforce in California. We talked about Delano, where I grew up, and Taft, where I worked prior to medical school. We enjoyed a tour of Universal Studios and lunch – it was amazing!"



Asm. Salas and Jasmeet Bains, MD

San Diego Contingent with Senate Leader Atkins



Left to right: Laura Murphy, DO; Lance Fuchs, MD; Anthony "Fatch" Chong, MD; Mariel Janowsky, MD, MPH; Senator Atkins; Steven Green, MD; Megan Chock, MD; Dev Vashishtha, MD; Adelina Sandoval, MD

FP-PAC sent an entire team of family physicians and residents to represent us at Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins' 2020 re-election campaign fundraiser at the Kona Kai Resort in San Diego. Anthony Chong, MD noted, "We thanked Senator Atkins for her work on health care and better access for patients, and she commented there's more to be done! She was thankful for the support of her work with health care, education and equal access of opportunity and encouragement of all Californians to strive for a better life. She also discussed the importance of not legislating from a political perspective, keeping in mind that we need to think of all Californians. For example, she mentioned health care is everyone's issue (not a Democratic issue) and water bonds are a 'regional issue,' regardless of politics. Additionally, we gave Senator Atkins our cards and offered ourselves as contacts in family medicine, primary care or guidance on health care issues."

FP-PAC NEWS

GIVING TO FP-PAC CAN BE VERY "REWARDING!"

At this year's CAFP All Member Advocacy Meeting and Family Medicine Clinical Forum, attendees who donated to FP-PAC at the Gold Level (\$250 - \$499) or above were entered in a raffle to win an iPad or Apple Watch. Congratulations to our two winners this year: Drs. Patrick Yassini (who chose an Apple Watch) and Dan Borgstadt (who chose an iPad)!



Patrick Yassini, MD and his new Apple Watch



Dan Borgstadt, MD showing off his new iPad

[CLICK HERE TO CONTRIBUTE](#)

FP-PAC Donor of the Month



May's Donor of the Month is Steven Green, MD, FAAFP! Each FP-PAC Donor of the Month has shown continuous support for our efforts through contributions and by being active at local FP-PAC events. [Find out more](#) about how Dr. Green has demonstrated his commitment to family medicine advocacy.

Thank You, 2018 Contributors!

Help strengthen family medicine's voice in California; join the growing number of your colleagues and chapters that already have given in 2018 and contribute to FP-PAC today!

FP Ambassador (\$2,500 or above)

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