# TelePAC

## The Voice of Iowa's Independent Telecommunication Providers

January 2021

# Why Contribute to TelePAC?

TelePAC supports Iowa candidates and incumbents who *appreciate* the integral role that rural telecom companies serve in Iowa communities.

Your contribution helps open doors to conversations with legislators, especially when YOU are involved in the process. Our campaign contributions are often presented to legislators by ICA members who serve that legislator's constituents, reinforcing the strength of our grassroots advocacy and your importance to the community's vitality.

TelePAC supports legislators who *listen and* understand rural issues and the extraordinary services offered by ICA member companies. Legislators are

more likely to support policies and funding for rural future-proof broadband expansion when they *understand and appreciate* the difference between the services we offer to meet tomorrow's needs compared to the services offered by others using yesterday's technologies.

TelePAC contributions send a clear message that the community-based communications providers are *committed* to participating in the legislative process.

TelePAC depends on the participation and donations from Alliance members. Member contributions are essential to the efforts of TelePAC to elect legislators who will *champion* the rural communications industry.

## **How to Contribute to TelePAC?**

TelePAC encourages all levels of monetary contributions. Some members contribute \$20, while others contribute \$500. The most frequent contribution amount in 2020 was \$100. Some people write one check per year, while others send in periodic payments or submit online contributions. TelePAC understands that members have varying levels of income and financial responsibilities and we encourage members to tailor contribution amounts to their budget and comfort level – *no contribution is too small, and all contributions are appreciated!* 

#### To contribute:

Make check payable to:
TelePAC
4201 Westown Pkwy, Ste. 130
West Des Moines, IA 50266

Or <u>click here to contribute online</u> using the secure form.





## TelePAC Success

TelePAC made contributions to dozens of candidates in the 2019-2020 election cycles and this paid off in two distinct ways:

- 1. A successful 2020 with three pieces of legislation pushed by ICA signed into law including the removal of state taxation of broadband grants, improved broadband mapping and an increase to the state match for broadband funding.
- 2. A successful election in November 2020 where 100% of the candidates supported by TelePAC who sought re-election were in fact re-elected

This level of success is a credit to TelePAC's long history of stable fundraising and judicious political investments. Rural telecom issues are not Republican or Democrat – that is why TelePAC contributes to candidates on both sides of the aisle. Instead of following a party line, your contributions help TelePAC support legislators who understand the importance of the rural telecom companies in Iowa, listen to the challenges faced by the industry, and champion policies that facilitate local companies to

continue providing excellent service and groundbreaking technology to Iowans.

The 2021 legislative session goals include more efforts to improve Iowa's broadband grant program, find other incentives to encourage more broadband buildout, and defeat harmful measures that would negatively impact your company's operations.

Throughout 2020, ICA members leveraged TelePAC funding to support both new and experienced legislators.



# **Record Participation, Boards Contributing 100% in 2020**

In 2020, General Managers/CEOs from 49 ICA telecommunications provider members contributed to TelePAC! 23 ICA member companies had 100% Board participation in 2020. In addition, Lone Rock Cooperative Telephone Company and Oran Mutual Telephone Company reported 100% staff participation, while Aureon, Jefferson Telecom, Minburn Communications, and South Slope Cooperative Communications Company report 100% management staff participation.

If you achieved 100% staff or 100% management staff participation, please let us know so we can recognize your generous participation.

### 100% of the Board of Directors contributed to TelePAC in 2020:

Aureon

Cascade Communications

Citizens Mutual Telephone Cooperative

CL Tel

Dumont Telephone

Farmers Mutual Communications - Moulton

FMTC - Stanton

FMCTC - Harlan

Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative

Iowa Communications Alliance

Jefferson Telecom

LNE Communications

Lone Rock Cooperative Telephone Co

Minburn Communications

MTC Technologies

Oran Mutual Telephone

Premier Communications

South Slope Cooperative Communications Company

Templeton Telephone Company

Van Buren Telephone Co.

Webster-Calhoun Cooperative Telephone Association

Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association

Western Iowa Networks