



## YOUR CALIFORNIA PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION AT WORK: How We Change Laws and Public Opinion With Your Help

### **CALIFORNIA PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

The nerve center. The dynamic duo of Randall Hagar and Barbara Gard keep their fingers on the pulse of the legislature, coordinate all our legislative initiatives and do our lobbying. Voluntary Government Affairs committee chaired by Tom Noyes, MD provides psychiatric expertise on various bills and prioritizes our objectives. Included in your dues.

### **ADVOCACY AND LITIGATION FUND**

Non tax-deductible fund provides the resources necessary to educate legislators and to provide enhanced lobbying, legal and public affairs effort in opposing high priority legislation that would allow psychologists' to practice medicine. With term limits there is more turnover than ever, and a lot that each legislator must learn to be effective. There has been a consistent emphasis since CAPP v. Rank (1990) on court cases and regulations but, in the last couple of years this fund has been used to counter an increased use of the courts and regulations by psychologists in order to attempt to gain medical privileges. This fund is voluntary.

### **CALIFORNIA PSYCHIATRIC POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

A separate organization, as required by law. Directly contributes to the campaigns of legislators qualified to serve Californians well. We believe to be qualified a legislator must care about the mental health of Californians, and be unwilling to turn over the prescribing of medication to anyone not trained as a physician. We interview candidates and contribute to candidates who share our goals in both the primary and general election. To obtain our objectives for the mental health of Californians, we must elect the right people to the legislature. Chaired by Ron Thurston, MD. Fund is voluntary, and not tax-deductible.

### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Communicates our message with the print, radio, and television media, as well as with editorial boards. This is essential to educate the public, and to reach business leaders with the facts about mental health, the ultimate productivity weapon. Currently a voluntary committee chaired by Bill Callahan, MD. CPA would eventually like to find funds to establish a staff public information/media director position.

### **YOU**

You should really be at the top of the list, because without you we are nothing. We need you as "media docs" to contact your local media and form relationships. ***We need you to form relationships with your legislators locally as a key contact. Without having local psychiatrists and other physicians to come to for information and to answer to, everything else we do here is inconsequential. We need you as members, we need your voluntary contributions to the funds listed above, and as much time as you'd like to contribute to promote our aims on the grassroots level! Get your colleagues to join us too.***