

Political Advocacy: Updates & How to Get Involved

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Presenters are speaking for themselves
as private individuals



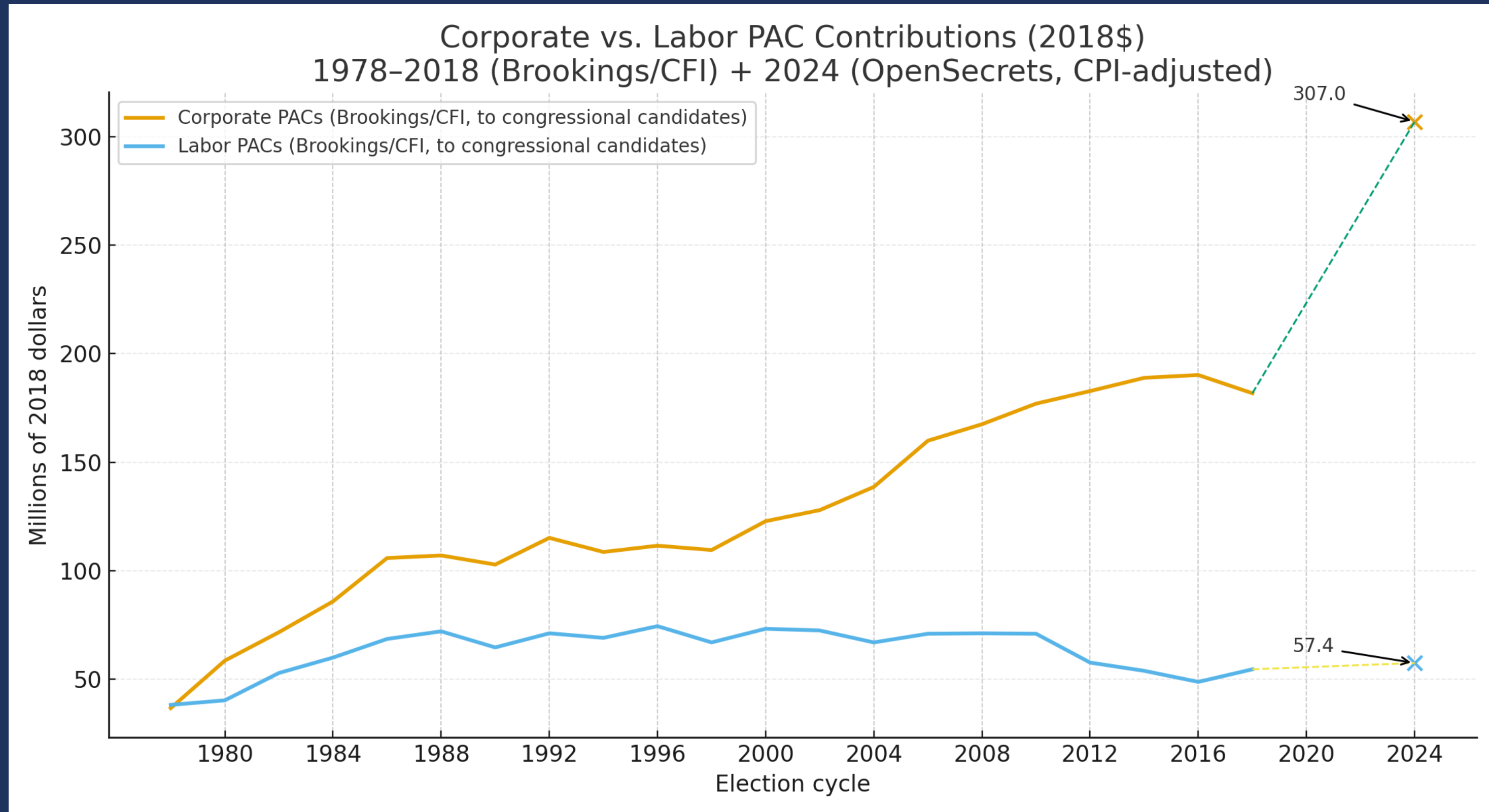
AGENDA

- Committee on Political Education
- Endorsements/upcoming elections
- Getting involved remotely & in person
- Sign up!

COPE

- Political Action arm of Texas AFT (national has one too)
- Facilitate member-to-member communications about political issues and elections
- Endorse political candidates
- Make contributions to candidate campaigns
- Local Unions can have COPE committee as well
- COPE committees are tied to a legal Political Action Committee

Why does COPE matter?



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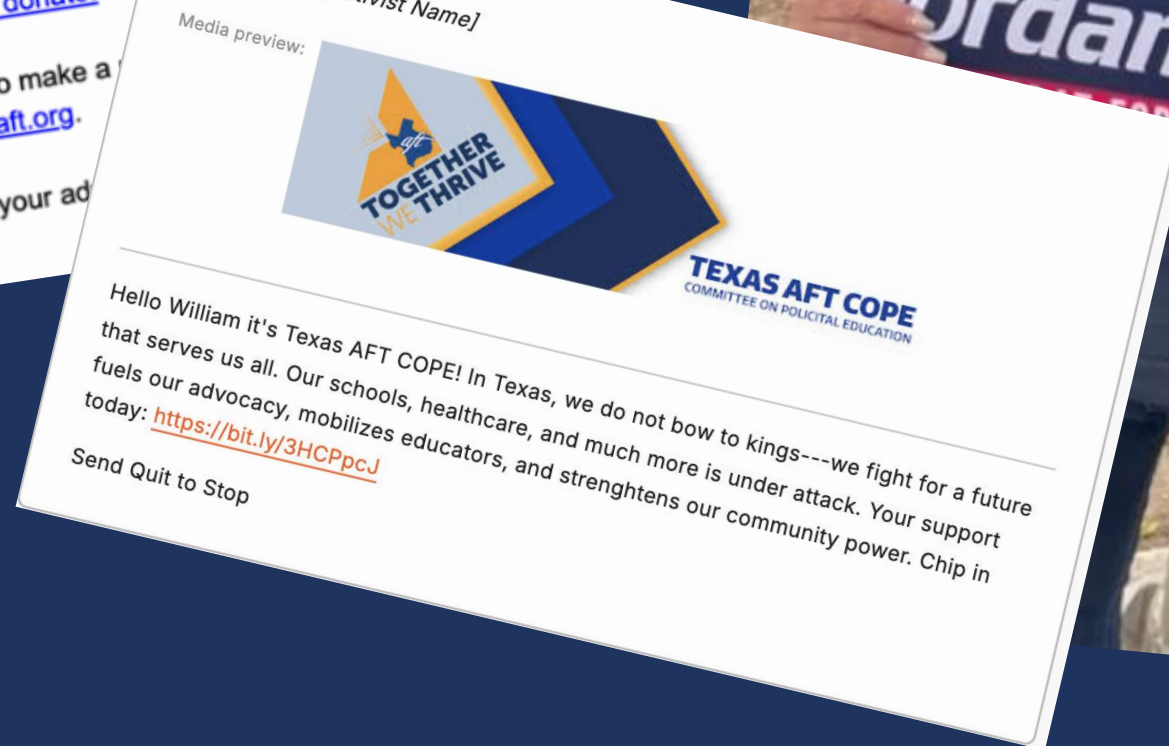
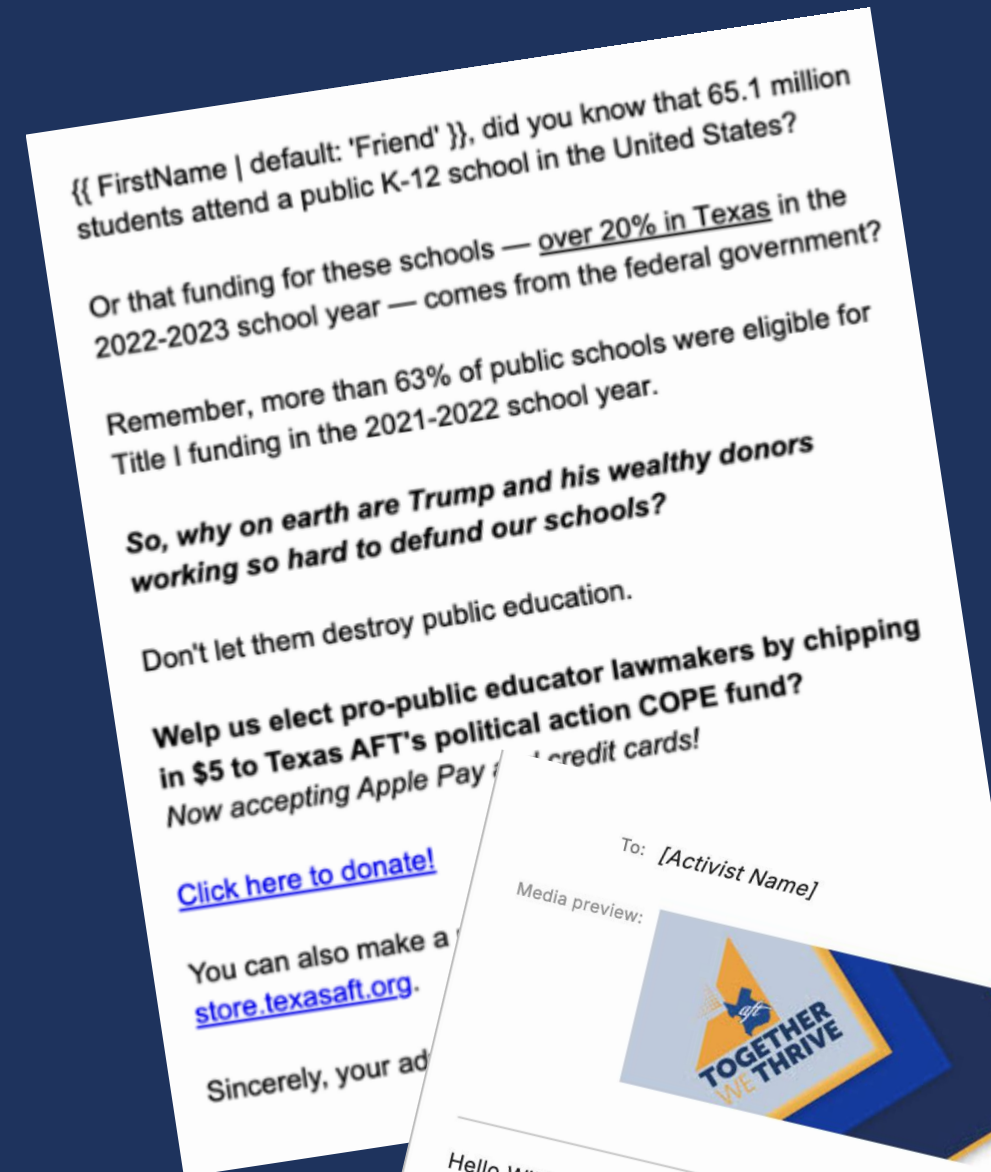


What does COPE pay for?



How do we raise \$?

- One on One conversations
- Ten Minute Meetings
- Email
- Text Message
- New Member Organizing



How do we endorse?

Texas AFT Endorsement Process



Questionnaire → Committee Meeting → Vote → Issue Endorsements → GOTV Plan

How to get involved?

Fun Ways to Get Involved in GOTV

Voter Registration Drives

- Host or volunteer at nonpartisan registration events.
- Set up a table with forms, QR codes, and clear signage.



Candidate Forums

- Organize neutral, ground-ruled forums so voters compare positions.
- Invite all candidates; publish rules in advance.



Meetings with Electeds

- Monthly/quarterly check-ins with sitting officials (with K-12 locals).
- Share educator priorities and follow up on commitments.



Op-Eds & Letters

- Pitch op-eds or write letters to the editor to lift educator voices.
- Tie to local issues and provide concrete solutions.



Block-Walking

- Knock doors for educator-endorsed candidates to boost turnout.
- Use walk lists; track contacts and commitments.



COPE Fundraising Drives

- Grow small-dollar sustainers to fuel the field program.
- Add QR codes and short testimonials to convert sign-ups.



Pick one to start—then bring a colleague!

Getting Involved Remotely

- ❖ Sign up at www.aftvotes.org
- ❖ Get active in your [AAUP Campus Chapter](#), or help form one if there isn't one.
- ❖ Look for opportunities for advocacy on [Texas AFT Mobilize](#) such as phone banking, email campaigns, and local office visits.

Join Texas AFT COPE



Thank you!