



All Children Matter:
Influencing Missouri Legislative Elections in 2006

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Missouri Citizen Education Fund

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Purpose of Report

This report looks at All Children Matter's contributions and expenditures in 2006, following the Missouri Citizen Education Fund's October 2005 report "All Children Matter: Influencing Missouri Public Policy". From 2004 to 2006, ACM has almost doubled its giving into Missouri State Legislative races. Based upon ACM's stated agenda to pass a private school voucher program, it is reasonable to conclude that this money was spent in an effort to influence legislators to pass legislation in 2007 to institute tuition tax credit vouchers.

Looking Back at the 2004 Election and 2005 Legislative Session

ACM played a prominent role in the 2004 election cycle, spending over \$385,339.77 in contested state races, \$159,344.84 of that in Legislative racesⁱ. The money proved significant, as 94.5% of the candidates ACM supported were elected and the majority co-sponsored ACM legislation when given the opportunity at much higher rate than the rest of the Assembly (93% to 46%)ⁱⁱ.

All Children Matter Double their Expenditures in Missouri in the 2006 Election

In 2006, ACM spent \$310,414.91 in Missouri State Legislative races, almost twice as much as in 2004 (See Appendix 1)ⁱⁱⁱ. This money again proved significant as 80% of ACM supported candidates won.

Other Signals

On November 26, 2006, Governor Blunt wrote in the Springfield News-Leader in favor of school vouchers: "The initiative would allow businesses or Missourians to receive tax credits in exchange for a donation to a not-for-profit organization. This organization would provide these private donations as scholarships for students..."^{iv}

It's important to mention that in 2004, ACM Missouri State PAC spent over \$190,000 attacking Blunt's opponent in his race for Governor^v.

Governor Blunt appointed the treasurer of the ACM Missouri State PAC, attorney Edward Martin, to the St. Louis Board of Election Commissioners. Only after becoming chairman, did Martin step down as treasurer for All Children Matter. Later, Governor Blunt hired Martin to take over as his Chief of Staff.

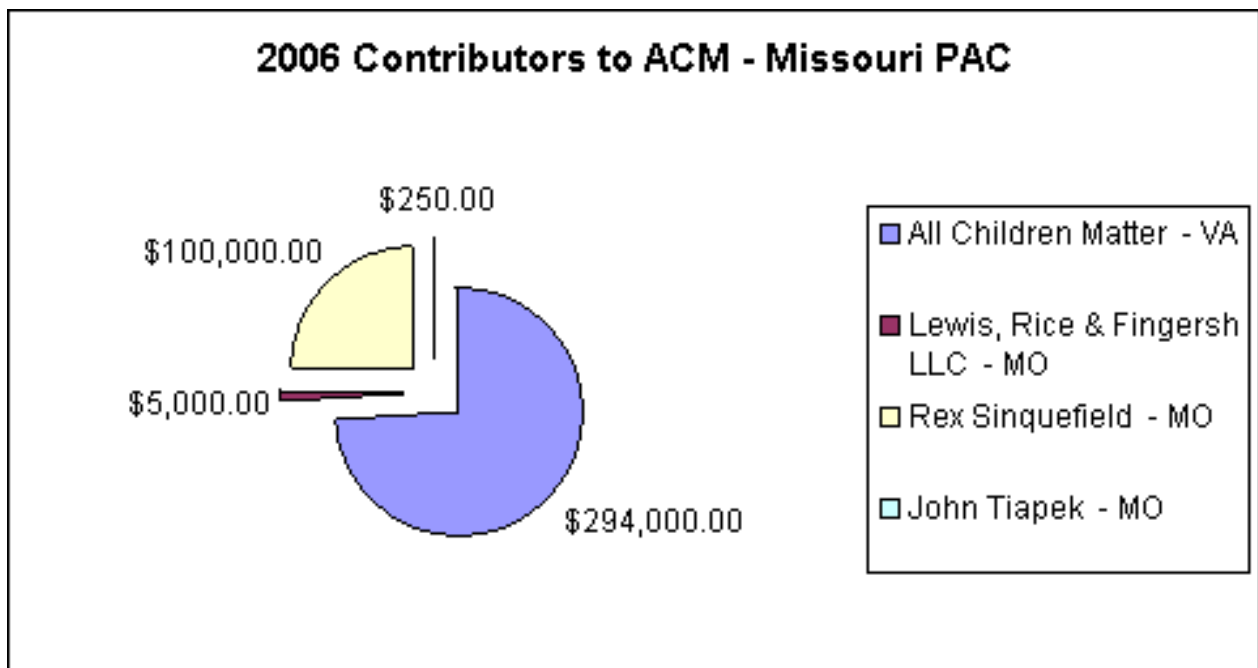
Governor Blunt has also recently nominated Donyale Whitmore-Smith to the Missouri State Board of Education, the state body dedicated to overseeing and supporting our public education system. Donyale Whitmore-Smith has a long history of supporting private schools and supporting ACM sponsored tuition tax credit voucher legislation^{vi}. Whitmore-Smith has been a leading advocate for the Missouri Coalition for School Choice, a pro-voucher organization funded by the Friedman Foundation^{vii}. The same Friedman Foundation hired Andy Blunt, Gov Blunt's brother to lobby on behalf of school vouchers^{viii}.

In 2006, Rep Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, created the Special Committee on School Choice, one of only a handful of Special Committees. Of the eight committee members appointed by Speaker Jetton, every member that was opposed in the 2006 election received contributions and/or indirect expenditures from ACM – MO State PAC (See Table 1.2)^{ix}.

Where ACM’s Money Comes From

Less than 33% of ACM’s funding in Missouri was raised from Missouri donors. The overwhelming majority of ACM-Missouri State PAC’s funding came from the ACM-Virginia State PAC, which is funded by the national pro-voucher elite. Once again, the push for school vouchers in Missouri is coming from out of state special interests, not from Missouri citizens.

Of the Missouri based donors, 95% (\$100,000) of the funding came from one source: Rex Sinquefield. Rex Sinquefield is also the current President of the Board of Directors for the Show Me Institute, whose work “is rooted in the American tradition of free markets and individual liberty,” and “seeks to move beyond the 20th-century mindset that every problem has a government solution^x.”



Conclusion

All of the information in this report is publicly available, but complex to assemble. This report is necessary because the public has a right to know and understand the financial dynamics behind the 2007 legislative session’s agenda. Following are tables that were referred to in the report and detail who received contributions and independent expenditures from ACM – Missouri State PAC.

Appendix 1 – All Children Matter Recipients^{xi}

Table 1.1 – House of Representatives

| Office Sought | Candidate (Party) | Contributions and Expenditures by ACM | Reason for Expenditure |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| District 16 | Carl Bearden (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 18 | Tom Dempsey (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 19 | Cynthia Davis (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 21 | Skip Elkin (D) | \$15,977.18 | Oppose |
| | Steve Hobbs (R) | \$325; \$9,538.98 | Support |
| District 24 | Jim Ritter (D) | \$24,710.59 | Oppose |
| | Ed Robb (R) | \$325; \$9,679.32 | Support |
| District 32 | John DeStefano(R) | \$325; \$20,281 | Support |
| District 33 | Jerry Nolte (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 35 | Doug Ervin (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 46 | Kate Meiners (D) | \$325 | Support |
| District 53 | Curt Dougherty (D) | \$325; \$3,260.11 | Support |
| District 58 | Rodney Hubbard (D) | \$325; \$31,640 | Support |
| District 72 | Maria Chappelle-Nadal (D) | \$3,638.67 | Oppose |
| District 80 | Ted Hoskins (D) | \$10,000 | 80 th District Legislative Committee |
| District 84 | Allen Icet (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 85 | Jim Lembke (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 87 | T. Scott Muschany (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 92 | Charles Portwood (R) | \$325; \$15,324.19 | Support |
| District 93 | Dwight Scharnhorst (R) | \$12,296.73 | Support |
| District 93 | Gen Frank (D) | \$6,355.42 | Oppose |
| District 98 | Brian Nieves (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 108 | Tom Villa (D) | \$325 | Support |
| District 114 | Bill Deeken (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 118 | Todd Smith (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 124 | Rex Rector (R) | \$325; \$10,007.93 | Support |
| District 126 | Ed Emery (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 127 | Steve Hunter (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 136 | B.J. Marsh (R) | \$8,975.13 | Support |
| District 140 | Bob Dixon (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 149 | Bob May (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 156 | Rod Jetton (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 157 | Scott Lipke (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 158 | Nathan Cooper (R) | \$325 | Support |
| TOTAL | | \$190,460.25 | |

Table 1.2 – Special Committee on School Choice

| Office Sought | Candidate (Party) | Contributions and Expenditures by ACM | Reason for Expenditure |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| District 28 | Robert Schaaf (R) | 0 | Unopposed |
| District 42 | Leonard “Jonas” Hughes (D) | 0 | Unopposed |
| District 46 | Kate Meiners (D) | \$325 | Support |
| District 58 | Rodney Hubbard (D) Co-Chair | \$325; \$31,640 | Support |
| District 80 | Ted Hoskins (D) Chair | \$10,000 | 80 th District Legislative Committee, Unopposed |
| District 123 | Brian Baker (R) | 0 | Unopposed |
| District 158 | Nathan Cooper (R) | \$325 | Support |
| District 127 | Steve Hunter (R) | \$325 | Support |
| TOTAL | | \$42,940 | |

Table 1.3 – Senate

| Office Sought | Candidate (Party) | Contributions and Expenditures by ACM | Reason for Expenditure |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| District 2 | Scott Rupp (R) | \$43,513.23 | Support |
| | Wayne Henke (D) | \$5,832.46 | Oppose |
| District 4 | Derio Gambaro (D) | \$600; \$7,577.12 | Support |
| District 8 | Matt Bartle (R) | \$600; \$14,962.61 | Support |
| District 10 | Mike Flaherty (D) | \$600; \$11,122.20 | Support |
| District 17 | Luann Ridgeway (R) | \$650.00 | Support |
| District 18 | Bob Behnen (R) | \$650; \$33,847.04 | Support |
| TOTAL | | \$119,954.66 | |

ⁱ www.mec.mo.gov - All Children Matter, 2004 Campaign Finance Reports

ⁱⁱ <http://www.house.mo.gov/bills051/biltxt/intro/HB0639I.HTM> - HB639 Sponsors

ⁱⁱⁱ www.mec.mo.gov - All Children Matter, 2006 Campaign Finance Reports

^{iv} “Tax credits would help low-income students,” Matt Blunt. *Springfield News-Leader*, November 26, 2006

^v www.mec.mo.gov - All Children Matter, 2004 Campaign Finance Reports

^{vi} www.umssystem.edu - “Legislative Update,” August 8, 2005

^{vii} www.heartland.org - “February 2005 Friedman Report Profile: Donayle Whitmore,” February 1, 2005

^{viii} <http://www.moethics.mo.gov/Ethics/Lobbying/LobElecReports.aspx>

^{ix} www.mec.mo.gov - All Children Matter, 2006 Campaign Finance Reports

^x <http://showmeinstitute.org> - “About Us” and “Board of Directors”

^{xi} www.mec.mo.gov - All Children Matter, 2006 Campaign Finance Reports