2016 ANA Presidential Endorsement Step by Step Process

Background:

The American Nurses Association (ANA) has endorsed a candidate in each presidential election since 1984. For the 2008 election, ANA will continue to follow the 1985 House of Delegates (HOD) resolution directing the Association to engage presidential contenders of all parties in endorsement considerations.

Presidential endorsements provide the best opportunity to educate our members about the political process and to encourage political participation among all nurses - while also demonstrating ANA’s political power and ability to accomplish its legislative and regulatory goals.

Step 1

The American Nurses Association Political Action Committee (ANA-PAC) and its Board of Trustees are tasked with overseeing the presidential endorsement effort.

ACTION: Select five members of the ANA-PAC Board to help lead the endorsement process by serving as the PAC’s Presidential Endorsement Task Force:

2016 ANA Presidential Task Force

- Elizabeth (Liz) Dietz, EdD, RN, CS-NP (Chair)
- Ray Coe, PhD, MBA, MHA, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE
- Faith Jones, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
- Gayle Peterson, RN-BC
- Pat VanMaanen, MS, RN
Step 2

ANA-PAC Board and its Presidential Endorsement Task Force members will work with ANA Government Affairs staff to undertake the necessary steps that will result in an endorsement decision.

ACTION:

- Examining the voting records, to the extent possible, of all announced candidates in relation to ANA’s legislative agenda
- Drafting a questionnaire to gauge the level of each candidate’s support for ANA’s core policy issues
- Polling individual Constituent/State Nurses Associations (C/SNAs) and ANA membership for their preferred candidates
- Conducting interviews with viable presidential candidates.

Step 3

Upon reaching the conclusion of this process, the PAC Board will present its endorsement recommendation to ANA’s Board of Directors. It’s important to note that the PAC Board’s endorsement decision typically represents a choice among three positions:

1. No endorsement or support of a candidate,
2. Support one or more candidates during the primary elections
3. Support of a candidate following the party nominating conventions.

Step 4

The ANA Board of Directors will vote to ratify the PAC Board’s endorsement recommendation. Upon approval the endorsement choice will be communicated to the ANA membership base, C/SNAs, the candidates’ campaign, and appropriate media parties.