

Policy Manual

Operational Policy

Operational Policy 25 (OP-25): Non-Partisanship

Adopted by: Board of Directors

Adopted on: March 22, 2011

Summary:

The Union serves in large part to advocate on behalf of its members with decision-makers at all levels of government. In order to maintain effective and consistent efforts to this end, the Union must operate on the basis of non-partisanship.

Policy:

- I. For the purposes of this policy, non-partisanship shall:
 - a. Disallow the endorsement of any politician and/or political party;
 - b. Require equal treatment, based on consistent principles and criteria, in commentary and action, of all politicians and political parties, and the positions, policies, and decisions thereof;
- II. For the purposes of this policy, non-partisanship shall not:
 - a. Disallow the provision of an opportunity to politicians and/or political parties where it is provided equally to all politicians and/or political parties, regardless of any one's disposition to that opportunity;
 - b. Disallow positive or negative commentary or action in relation to, or endorsement of, a position, policy, or decision of any politician and/or political party;
 - c. Require a balance of positive and negative commentary or action in relation to any politician and/or political party;
- III. The Union will operate on the basis of non-partisanship in all of its activities and in relation to all levels of government;
- IV. Individual elected representatives and staff shall not purport to represent the Union in relation to politicians and political parties, or decisions, positions, or policies thereof, unless authorized to do so, and will make reasonable efforts to make this clear when engaging in public dialogue or actions.