May 10, 2012

Dear Colleague:

I recently returned from the ACC annual scientific session in Chicago and am writing to you to encourage you to become involved in a California Chapter of the American College Cardiology's Political Action Committee (PAC).

One thing is certain. The events of his coming year with lead to dramatic changes in the delivery of health care, particularly cardiology care. Whether Republicans, Democrats or the political independents hold sway major changes will occur. Cardiologists in America and specifically in California will face many important issues that will directly affect how cardiology is practiced and how we will be able to help our patients. Some of this will be the fall out from the upcoming elections and some will be reaction to the Supreme Court decision (whatever it may be),

As physicians we need to be involved in the process. We need to be at the table when whatever remains of the Affordable Care Act is interpreted and parsed by the state legislature, committees and bureaucrats (another word would be better). The only way to be there for the discussion is to have a presence in Sacramento. In California we are fortunate to have excellent representation in the person of Tim Madden our lobbyist. The CA ACC needs to know what is happening in the legislature, to offer informed commentary when needed and be at the table when critical issues are discussed in Sacramento.

No one can predict how any of this will come out. That significant change will happen and that will become policy is certain.

During the upcoming year, even without the turmoil of national politics, the California Chapter the ACC needs to have a strong and informed voice in Sacramento. This voice is only possible through the PAC, which is supported by our members. I strongly urge you to support both the California Chapter PAC and the ACC national PAC with both your willingness to be involved physically and financially. To contribute please visit www.caacc.org, advocacy page, or use the enclosed forms.

Thank you,

William B. Ricks, MD, FACC
Chair
CARDIO PAC

Our mission: To advocate for accessible, highest quality, cost effective cardiovascular care for Californians.