Commercial Banks are Giving a Record-Breaking Percentage of their Political Donations to Republicans

Key Points On Donations by Commercial Banks' Political Action Committees



Around 73% of donations from commercial banks' political action committees (PACs) in the 2016 election cycle are going to Republicans, the highest percentage going to one party in decades.



Banks' down-ballot donations aren't representative of their spending in the presidential race. Commercial bank PACs and related individuals have given \$1.5 million to Hillary Clinton, and only \$35,069 to Donald Trump.



The PACs of the American Bankers Association, the Independent Community Bankers of America, Wells Fargo, Citigroup, Bank of America, and JPMorgan Chase all gave a majority of their contributions to down-ballot Republicans



Many of the larger donations are going to Republican senators who face reelection in 2016. The banks may wish to avoid a Democratcontrolled Senate that could pass further financial regulation.



Commercial bank donations to Republicans spiked after the passing of the Dodd-Frank Act in 2010, as Democrats pushed for further regulation of the banking sector.

Nine of the Top Ten Senate Recipients of Banks' Donations Are Republicans

Top Ten Senate Recipients of Commercial Banks' Donations in the 2016 Election Cycle



Richard Shelby (R-AL) \$430, 671



Rob Portman (R-OH) \$234,130



Pat Toomey (R-PA) \$387,350



Charles Schumer (D-NY) \$230,002



Johnny Isakson (R-GA) \$160,450



Ted Cruz (R-TX) \$372, 895



Mike Crapo (R-ID) \$205,400



John Boozman (R-AR) \$139,500



Marco Rubio (R-FL) \$244,464



Tim Scott (R-SC) \$184,900

Sources: Ian McKendry, "Bank Donors Go full-Tilt for GOP Candidates (Except Trump)," American Banker, August 15, 2016.

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The Ten Top Recipients of Banks' Donations in the House are Republicans

Top Ten House Recipients of Commercial Banks' Donations in the 2016 Election Cycle



Paul Ryan (R-WI) \$284,085



French Hill (R-AR) \$158,975



Jeb Hensarling (R-TX) \$216,850



Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) \$139,350



Sean Duffy (R-WI) \$129,947



Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO) \$204,350



Steve Stivers (R-OH) \$136,350



Pete Sessions (R-TX) \$123,100



Patrick McHenry (R-NC) \$199,800



Andy Barr(R-KY) \$134,450

Sources: Ian McKendry, "Bank Donors Go full-Tilt for GOP Candidates (Except Trump)," American Banker, August 15, 2016.

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