

Policy D9: Board Process: **Board Advocacy on Public Issues**

The Board may take actions to educate members about and influence public policy and government regulations on behalf of its owners.

1. Issues and actions shall be derived from the Ends policy. Issues chosen will be widely representative of the ownership, and will involve laws, regulations, and policies that either may help the Cooperative to better serve Owners interests or may harm the Cooperative's ability to serve Owners effectively. Issues and actions will be consistent with operational goals and strategies as defined by the General Manager.
2. The Board shall direct a committee to pursue issues in two phases.
 - a. Research phase: First, the Board shall determine if a particular issue merits further research. If it is so determined, the Board will direct the Advocacy Committee to gather information, consider and evaluate different viewpoints, and suggest strategies for actions.
 - b. Action phase: Second, the committee will present a report to the Board, and the Board will then determine if the issue should be supported. If so, the Board may direct the committee to implement actions or may take action itself.

An advocacy project will cease when the Board advocacy committee declares its efforts complete or when the Board votes by simple majority to halt the project.

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Revised 11 November 2010

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