

Associated Builders And Contractors—Which Claims It "Believes In The Foundations Of Democracy"—Has Given \$168,500 To The Sedition Caucus After Emphatically Endorsing And Donating To Trump

SUMMARY: So far in 2021, the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) have given \$168,500 the Sedition Caucus. Months after the insurrection, a spokesperson claimed ABC "[believes in the foundations of democracy, which include free and fair elections and the peaceful transfer of power](#)," adding that the group embraces "[the diversity of ideas that powers American prosperity](#)."

ABC's statement did not directly condemn the events of the January 6 insurrection and the group's site notably [does not include](#) a press release detailing its thoughts on the historic violence at the Capitol.

ABC's contributions may have something to do with the fact that the group [emphatically endorsed](#) Trump's reelection, gave his campaign [\\$5,000](#) in September 2020, and [thanked](#) him for his vow to veto the Protecting Right to Organize (PRO) Act—"the biggest expansion in protections for organized labor in more than a [generation](#)."

Beyond its contributions to the Sedition Caucus, ABC's support for election deniers is in tension with its [stated values](#) on diversity and equity, which tout a "[a dedication to providing opportunities for all](#)." Meanwhile, the insurrection was seen as "[the culmination](#)" of Trump-era white supremacy.

Associated Builders And Contractors' (ABC's) Political Action Committee Has Given \$168,500 To The Sedition Caucus Despite A Spokesperson's Claim —Months After The Insurrection—that The Group "'Believes In The Foundations Of Democracy, Which Include Free And Fair Elections And The Peaceful Transfer Of Power.'"

As Of December 2021, The Associated Builders And Contractors (ABC) Political Action Committee Has Given \$168,500 To The Sedition Caucus.

As Of December 2021, Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee Has Given \$168,500 To The Sedition Caucus. [Accountable.US Corporate Donations Tracker, Accessed [12/22/21](#)]

PAC	Member	Amount	Date
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Virginia Foxx (NC-5)	\$5,000	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Mike Rogers (AL-3)	\$5,000	09/22/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Kevin McCarthy (CA-23)	\$5,000	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	David Rouzer (NC-7)	\$5,000	05/26/21

Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Frank Lucas (OK-3)	\$5,000	09/22/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Steve Scalise (LA-1)	\$5,000	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Kat Cammack (FL-3)	\$5,000	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jim Jordan (OH-4)	\$5,000	08/12/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Andy Harris (MD-1)	\$5,000	06/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Glenn Thompson (PA-15)	\$5,000	09/22/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO-3)	\$5,000	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Tom Cole (OK-4)	\$5,000	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Gary Palmer (AL-6)	\$2,500	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Scott Franklin (FL-15)	\$2,500	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Steve Chabot (OH-1)	\$2,500	09/22/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Tim Walberg (MI-7)	\$2,500	06/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jeff Duncan (SC-3)	\$2,500	06/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Bob Gibbs (OH-7)	\$2,500	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Daniel Webster (FL-11)	\$2,500	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Rick Allen (GA-12)	\$2,500	09/22/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Scott Perry (PA-10)	\$2,500	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	David Schweikert (AZ-6)	\$2,500	08/12/21

Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Barry Loudernilk (GA-11)	\$2,500	08/12/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jim Hagedorn (MN-1)	\$2,500	09/22/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Stephanie Bice (OK-5)	\$2,500	06/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Beth Van Duyne (TX-24)	\$2,500	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Scott Fitzgerald (WI-5)	\$2,500	06/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Barry Moore (AL-2)	\$2,500	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Cliff Bentz (OR-2)	\$2,500	08/12/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Byron Donalds (FL-19)	\$2,500	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Garret Graves (LA-6)	\$2,500	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jim Banks (IN-3)	\$2,500	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jodey Arrington (TX-19)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Adrian Smith (NE-3)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Rick Crawford (AR-1)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jackie Walorski (IN-2)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jason Smith (MO-8)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Lisa McClain (MI-10)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Diana Harshbarger (TN-1)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Ron Estes (KS-4)	\$2,500	11/17/21

Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Kevin Hern (OK-1)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Carol Miller (WV-3)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Michelle Fischbach (MN-7)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Tom Tiffany (WI-7)	\$2,500	11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Lloyd Smucker (PA-11)	\$5,000	04/30/21; 11/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jack Bergman (MI-1)	\$2,500	08/12/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Ted Budd (NC-13)	\$2,500	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	John Rutherford (FL-4)	\$2,500	06/17/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Debbie Lesko (AZ-8)	\$2,500	08/12/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Greg Steube (FL-17)	\$2,500	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Jerry Carl (AL-1)	\$2,500	04/30/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Mike Garcia (CA-25)	\$2,500	09/22/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Brian Babin (TX-36)	\$1,000	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Randy Weber (TX-14)	\$1,000	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Tim Burchett (TN-2)	\$1,000	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Troy Nehls (TX-22)	\$1,000	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Michael Guest (MS-3)	\$1,000	05/26/21
Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee	Doug LaMalfa (CA-1)	\$1,000	05/26/21
Total:		\$168,500	

The Associated Builders And Contractors Is “A National Construction Industry Trade Association Representing More Than 21,000 Members” With 69 Chapters That “Help Members Develop People, Win Work And Deliver That Work Safely, Ethically And Profitably.” “Associated Builders and Contractors is a national construction industry trade association representing more than 21,000 members. Founded on the merit shop philosophy, ABC and its 69 chapters help members develop people, win work and deliver that work safely, ethically and profitably for the betterment of the communities in which ABC and its members work. ABC’s membership represents all specialties within the U.S. construction industry and is comprised primarily of firms that perform work in the industrial and commercial sectors.” [ABC.org, Accessed [11/30/21](#)]

ABC Did Not Issue A Press Release About Its Stance On The January 6 Insurrection And Months Later Claimed That It “Believes In The Foundations Of Democracy, Which Include Free And Fair Elections And The Peaceful Transfer Of Power.”

ABC Did Not Issue A Press Release About The Insurrection In January 2021. [Associated Builders and Contractors, accessed [12/02/21](#)]

In June 2021, ABC's Vice President Of Legislative And Political Affairs Kristen Swearingen Said The Group “Believes In The Foundations Of Democracy, Which Include Free And Fair Elections And The Peaceful Transfer Of Power.” “Associated Builders and Contractors believes in the foundations of democracy, which include free and fair elections and the peaceful transfer of power,’ Kristen Swearingen, the group’s vice president of legislative and political affairs, said in a statement. ‘ABC actively engages in the political process to advance policies that better the individual, the industry and the nation through fair and open competition. We embrace the diversity of ideas that powers American prosperity by advancing productivity, innovation and individual freedoms, and we look forward to continuing to participate in that process.’ [Roll Call, [6/7/21](#)]

Swearingen Continued By Stating That ABC Embraces “The Diversity Of Ideas That Powers American Prosperity By Advancing Productivity, Innovation And Individual Freedoms, And We Look Forward To Continuing To Participate In That Process.” “Associated Builders and Contractors believes in the foundations of democracy, which include free and fair elections and the peaceful transfer of power,’ Kristen Swearingen, the group’s vice president of legislative and political affairs, said in a statement. ‘ABC actively engages in the political process to advance policies that better the individual, the industry and the nation through fair and open competition. We embrace the diversity of ideas that powers American prosperity by advancing productivity, innovation and individual freedoms, and we look forward to continuing to participate in that process.’ [Roll Call, [6/7/21](#)]

ABC's PAC Gave \$5,000 Directly To Trump's Campaign In The 2020 Election Cycle, Endorsed Trump For Reelection, And Praised His Vow To Veto The Protecting Right To Organize (PRO) Act—The "Biggest Expansion In Protections For Organized Labor In More Than A Generation."

September 20, 2020: The Associated Builders And Contractors, Inc. Political Action Committee Gave \$5,000 To Donald J. Trump For President Inc. [Federal Election Commission, [09/29/20](#)]

ABC Endorsed Donald Trump For Reelection, Stating That He "Helped ABC Members Grow Their Businesses." "Associated Builders and Contractors is proud to announce its endorsement of President Donald J. Trump for reelection. In a [letter to the president](#), ABC President and CEO Michael D. Bellaman and ABC 2020 National Chair Tim Keating, owner and president of R. C. Stevens Construction Co., Winter Garden, Florida, said: 'Your continued support for fair and open competition, job creation, small businesses and expanded workforce development initiatives during your first term in office have helped ABC members grow their businesses, upskill their workforce and create career enhancing jobs.' [Associated Builders and Contractors, [08/28/20](#)]

ABC Praised Trump For His Vow To Veto The Protecting Right To Organize (PRO) Act, Which Would Have Been "The Biggest Expansion In Protections For Organized Labor In More Than A Generation."

"In addition, your promise to veto the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, legislation that will overturn freedom of choice in all existing right-to-work states, take away a worker's right to a secret ballot and eliminate the ability for workers to pursue independent contracting opportunities, assures us you will protect the merit shop construction industry and small businesses, which are the backbone of our economy." [Associated Builders and Contractors, [08/28/20](#)]

- **The PRO Act Would Have Been "The Biggest Expansion In Protections For Organized Labor In More Than A Generation."** "The House passed the PRO Act in March. In its entirety, the law aims at becoming the biggest expansion in protections for organized labor in more than a generation. The bill would make a number of sweeping changes to American labor law, including giving independent contractors the ability to unionize, granting the National Labor Relations Board the ability to impose civil monetary penalties, and giving individuals standing to sue to enforce their own labor rights, among other things." [Talking Points Memo, [07/22/21](#)]

The Associated Builders And Contractors Claimed To Value Diversity And Equity, Saying It Believes "Career Opportunities In This Nation Should Be Created And Made Available To All People"—Meanwhile, The Insurrection Was Seen As "The Culmination" Of Trump-Era White Supremacy.

The Associated Builders And Contractors Said The "Driving Force" Behind Its Diversity And Equity Initiatives Is Its Belief In Creating And Championing Conditions Where "Individuals And Organizations Are Limited Only By Their Own Potential And Desire."

While Its "Inclusion, Diversity And Equity Initiatives," The Associated Builders And Contractors Has Stated It Believes "Career Opportunities In This Nation Should Be Created And Made Available To All People." "At Associated Builders and Contractors, we believe that career opportunities in this nation should be created and made available to all people. We believe in creating—and championing—conditions where individuals and organizations are limited only by their own potential and desire. This is the driving force behind the merit shop philosophy and ABC's inclusion, diversity and equity initiatives." [ABC.org, Accessed [11/30/21](#)]

ABC Said Its "Driving Force" Behind Its Diversity And Equity Initiatives Is Its Belief In Creating And Championing Conditions Where "Individuals And Organizations Are Limited Only By Their Own Potential And Desire." "At Associated Builders and Contractors, we believe that career opportunities in this nation should be created and made available to all people. We believe in creating—and championing—conditions where individuals and organizations are limited only by their own potential and desire. This is the driving force behind the merit shop philosophy and ABC's inclusion, diversity and equity initiatives." [ABC.org, Accessed [11/30/21](#)]

The Associated Builders And Contractors Defined Diversity And Equity For Themselves And How It Implements Those Ideals In Its Organization, Saying Diversity Is "An Appreciation Of A Variety Of Abilities, Skills And Experiences" And Equity As "A Dedication To Providing Opportunities For All."

The Associated Builders And Contractors Said They Defined Diversity As "An Appreciation Of A Variety Of Abilities, Skills And Experiences" And "To Actively Seek Stakeholders From Diverse Cultural Backgrounds To Achieve Superior Results." "How we Define Inclusion, Diversity and Equity? [...] Diversity: An appreciation of a variety of abilities, skills and experiences. To actively seek stakeholders from

diverse cultural backgrounds to achieve superior results. Giving all individuals and organizations the opportunity to compete in a fair and open marketplace." [ABC.org, Accessed [11/30/21](#)]

- **ABC Said Diversity Was "Giving All Individuals And Organizations The Opportunity To Compete In A Fair And Open Marketplace."** "How we Define Inclusion, Diversity and Equity? [...] Diversity: An appreciation of a variety of abilities, skills and experiences. To actively seek stakeholders from diverse cultural backgrounds to achieve superior results. Giving all individuals and organizations the opportunity to compete in a fair and open marketplace." [ABC.org, Accessed [11/30/21](#)]

The Associated Builders And Contractors Said They Defined Equity As "A Dedication To Providing Opportunities For All" And A Dedication To "Creating The Conditions For Everyone To Compete On A Fair And Level Playing Field." "How we Define Inclusion, Diversity and Equity? [...] Equity: A dedication to providing opportunities for all. Creating the conditions for everyone to compete on a fair and level playing field. Every individual has the opportunity to succeed." [ABC.org, Accessed [11/30/21](#)]

The Associated Press Found That The Insurrection Was "The Culmination" Of Several White Supremacist Displays During The Trump Administration, Including The Deadly "Unite The Right" Rally In Charlottesville.

HEADLINE: "Years Of White Supremacy Threats Culminated In Capitol Riots." [Associated Press, [11/15/21](#)]

The Associated Press Found That The Insurrection Was "The Culmination" Of Several White Supremacist Displays During The Trump Administration, Including The Deadly "Unite The Right Rally." "Amid the American flags and Trump 2020 posters at the U.S. Capitol during last week's insurrection were far more sinister symbols: A man walking the halls of Congress carrying a Confederate flag. Banners proclaiming white supremacy and anti-government extremism. A makeshift noose and gallows ominously erected outside. In many ways this hate-filled display was the culmination of many others over the past few years, including the deadly 2017 'Unite the Right' rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, that gathered extremist factions from across the country under a single banner." [Associated Press, [11/15/21](#)]

- **"Extremist Groups" Had A Presence In The Insurrection, "Including The Pro-Trump, Far-Right, Anti-Government Oath Keepers And The Three Percenters."** "Extremist groups, including the pro-Trump, far-right, anti-government Oath Keepers and the Three Percenters, a loose anti-government network that's part of the militia movement, were among those descending on the halls of power on Jan. 6." [Associated Press, [11/15/21](#)]

Avowed White Nationalist Group The Groyper Army Was Present At The Insurrection. "Also among the rioters were members of Groyper Army, a loose network of white nationalists, the white supremacist New Jersey European Heritage Association, and the far-right extremist Proud Boys, along with other known white supremacists, Tuchman said. While not all the anti-government groups were explicitly white supremacist, Tuchman said many support white supremacist beliefs." [Associated Press, [1/14/21](#)]