

## BILL 214 BACKGROUNDER

### PURPOSE

Bill 214, An Act to Regulate Political Action Committees, seeks to amend the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act in order to provide a clear definition for political action committees (PACs) and regulate them in accordance with the same rules that apply to other political entities.

### LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

BILL 214 consists of two main components:

1. The definition of a “political action committee” as a distinct entity from third party advertisers.
2. Amendments to numerous sections of the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act to bring PACs under its purview.

### *Highlights*

- ▶ **Definition:** Political action committees are clearly defined as distinct entities from third party advertisers.
- ▶ **Registration:** Political action committees will be registered with Elections Alberta.
- ▶ **Financial Disclosure:** Political action committees must follow the same financial disclosure rules as other political entities.
- ▶ **Contribution Limits:** Political action committees are subject to the same aggregate contribution limits as all other political entities.
- ▶ **Spending Limits:** Political action committees have spending limits on election advertising in the same manner as third party election advertisers.
- ▶ **Donation Ban:** Corporate, union and out-of-province donations to political action committees are banned.
- ▶ **Anti-collusion:** Political entities are prohibited from donating to political action committees that engage in the political promotion of those same political entities.