

# **CenturyLink Political Contributions Report**

January 1, 2020 - June 30, 2020



At CenturyLink, we are committed to advocating for public policy solutions that best serve our customers, our employees, and the communities we serve. Federal, state and local policymakers make critical decisions that directly affect our ability to invest in our network and deliver transformational digital services to enterprise, government and mass-market customers.

Our active participation in the political process is essential to ensure that we have a voice in those decisions. Electing business-minded policymakers who understand CenturyLink's role in delivering the fastest, most secure services to customers and communities is critical to maintaining a competitive operating environment.

CenturyLink participates in the political process in several ways, including educating individuals about the real-world impacts of policy decisions; political giving through employee-funded federal and state political action committees; corporate political giving where permitted; and membership in industry trade associations that help advance our overall business objectives.

CenturyLink also values transparency in this process and appreciates the need for disclosure of our political activity to promote ethical corporate governance and confidence in the democratic process. The company's corporate political contributions and those of its political action committees are disclosed in accordance with applicable federal and state campaign finance laws, and this Political Contributions Report contains additional information which we disclose voluntarily.

From a federal standpoint, we also file quarterly reports with the U.S. House and Senate regarding our U.S. federal lobbying activities, as well as mid-year and year-end reports regarding our U.S. federal political contributions. These reports are available by searching for "CenturyLink" as a "Registrant" on the U.S. Senate's website:

http://www.senate.gov/legislative/Public Disclosure/LDA reports.htm.

From a state standpoint, we also file quarterly and monthly reports, in accordance with applicable state law, regarding our State Political Action Committee contributions, with State Ethics Commissions or their equivalent organizations.

### **Core Principles for Participation**

CenturyLink's participation in the political process is guided by a set of core principles that govern our corporate policies on lobbying, political spending and general engagement in the process.

- CenturyLink supports public policies that empower our business operations, promote competition, and are in the best long-term interest for our customers, employees and shareholders.
- Political contributions by CenturyLink do not reflect the interests of individual directors, officers or employees.
- CenturyLink does not make political contributions based upon party affiliation.



- No campaign contribution will be given in anticipation of, in recognition of, or in return for an
  official act.
- CenturyLink will not make political contributions for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the award of business to the company.
- CenturyLink adheres to all federal, state and local laws and regulations governing the
  political process and has established internal policies, personnel and procedures to ensure
  compliance with these requirements.

### Political Action Committee Contributions

CenturyLink has established voluntary, nonpartisan employee-funded political action committees ("PACs") that accept employee contributions and make expenditures to support candidates for elected office. These employee PACs allow eligible employees, as defined by federal and state law, to pool their resources to support candidates for office who generally, but not always, support the public policies supported by the Company. Eligible employees are encouraged to make contributions to a CenturyLink-sponsored PAC; however, CenturyLink does not require participation, carry out retaliatory actions against employees who do not participate, or attempt to influence employee contributions or political activities in any manner.

The CenturyLink, Inc. Employees' Political Action Committee ("CenturyLink PAC") is a federal political action committee, registered and monitored by the Federal Elections Commission, established to encourage employee participation in the political process, and to make contributions to qualified candidates for public office. The CenturyLink PAC provides company employees with a convenient and meaningful way to participate in the electoral process, learn more about key issues, as well as collectively support public policy positions that are important to CenturyLink, regardless of political party affiliation.

The CenturyLink PAC's disbursement of funds is made in accordance with a budget, and the same contribution criteria identified in the "Core Principles for Participation" section above are considered in determining CenturyLink PAC disbursements. Throughout the year, members of the company's Public Policy organization and associate PAC members offer recommendations for CenturyLink PAC disbursements. CenturyLink PAC contributions are approved by the CenturyLink PAC's Board of Trustees, which is comprised of management employees from various CenturyLink business units and management levels within the company. A listing of the Board of Trustees and officers of the CenturyLink PAC follows this discussion.

The CenturyLink PAC operates pursuant to all relevant state and federal laws and complies with all public disclosure requirements. Information about the CenturyLink PAC's contributions may be found on the Federal Election Commission's website, <a href="www.fec.gov">www.fec.gov</a>.



CenturyLink also operates 10 separate state employee PACs, which are funded by a combination of voluntary employee contributions, transfers from the CenturyLink PAC, and corporate political contributions. These state PACs are governed in a manner similar to that of the CenturyLink PAC, each having a board of trustees or similar governing body.

### **Corporate Political Contributions**

CenturyLink makes direct contributions to support certain state candidates, political parties, political action committees, and ballot measures in those states where such corporate contributions are allowed by law and may make in-kind contributions, such as hosting a reception and paying expenses associated with the event.

Each year, the company's Board of Directors reviews and approves a maximum limit on the aggregate amount of corporate political contributions that may be made, and authorizes only political contributions that are permitted by, and in strict compliance with, applicable law. Throughout the year, members of the company's Public Policy organization make recommendations for corporate contributions. The Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs must approve each corporate contribution. Advance approval must be obtained for cash contributions to individuals or organizations able to receive corporate contributions, use of corporate facilities, discounts, or other items having monetary value. CenturyLink does not make corporate political contributions to candidates for federal office.

### Trade Association Memberships and Related Engagements

Like most major corporations, CenturyLink is a member of a number of national and state industry and business trade associations (organized under section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code) to help advance our public policy agenda and related business goals. CenturyLink believes that membership in these associations is generally consistent with the company's interests and plays a valuable role in bringing a collective voice to the political process. CenturyLink also understands that not all members of an association will come to agreement on every issue. Even when CenturyLink does not share the view of one of these associations, we still believe that membership is worthwhile because these associations encourage dialogue and help to move the industry to a consensus on important policy issues. However, CenturyLink does take these situations into consideration when determining annual membership. Payments to industry and business trade associations are subject to the same criteria listed in the "Core Principles for Participation" section above.



CenturyLink has a rigorous approval process for contributions to industry and business trade associations and similar organizations (for example, 527 groups, 501(c)(4) groups, and other similar tax-exempt organizations whose primary purpose includes political activities). Each proposed contribution must be approved by the Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs. Finally, CenturyLink would note that a portion of the total payments made to each trade association may be allocated to non-deductible lobbying and political expenditures, as determined by such trade association and computed pursuant to I.R.C. § 162(e) and Treas. Reg. § 1.162.29.

### **Lobbying Activities**

CenturyLink engages in lobbying activities to advocate our position on public policy, business and tax issues with elected officials and others in federal and state government. These are issues that affect our company, our employees and, most importantly, our customers. The company's Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs has oversight of all lobbying activities and expenditures. Other members of the company's Public Policy organization involved with lobbying include the Vice Presidents, Regional Regulatory and Legislative Affairs personnel and their respective direct reports.

CenturyLink complies with all disclosure requirements as prescribed by state and federal law. CenturyLink employees who are registered as lobbyists on behalf of the Company must also comply with company procedures for tracking and reporting activities and related expenses involving dealings with public officials and employees. CenturyLink lobbyists also are required to behave in a manner that meets or exceeds generally accepted standards of conduct of the profession. In their dealings with public officials and employees, all CenturyLink employees are required to comply with applicable federal and state laws, as well as the Company's policies on political activities, lobbying, and the exchange of business courtesies such as gifts, meals and entertainment.

### Management and Oversight

CenturyLink values responsible corporate governance and participates in the political process to formulate policies that benefit our customers, shareholders and the communities we serve. In making political contributions, CenturyLink is committed to complying with laws and regulations governing the political process including campaign finance and disclosure rules.



CenturyLink encourages its employees' voluntary, personal participation in the political process, whether by voting, volunteering time, contributing money to the candidates of their choice or holding public office. When participating in the political process, however, CenturyLink employees must comply with the company's ethics and compliance requirements identified in the company's "Code of Conduct" and related corporate policies. The Code of Conduct, which is available on our website, sets forth the guidelines for appropriate employee conduct relating to political activity and contributions, as well as interaction with government officials and agencies. Employees are advised that personal political activities must never occur on company time and no company resources can be used. Additionally, CenturyLink does not reimburse employees, directly or indirectly, for political donations or expenses. Furthermore, CenturyLink adheres to a strict policy that no employee will be subject to any form of pressure, coercion or intimidation related to participation in political activities, nor shall any employee receive compensation or benefits for participating in personal political activities.

Management of CenturyLink's participation in the political process is the responsibility of the Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs. This position reports directly to CenturyLink's Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and General Counsel.

Public policy updates are provided periodically to CenturyLink's Board of Directors and/or its designated board committees, including periodic reviews of the company's political strategy, contributions and activities. The risks associated with political and lobbying activities are managed in accordance with the company's enterprise risk management framework. In that regard, the Board of Directors and/or its designated board committees oversee compliance with the Company's policies and procedures regarding political contributions and activities.

In addition, the company's Internal Audit personnel and Corporate Ethics and Compliance Department assess the risk related to political activities, including spending, in connection with the company's annual risk assessment process.



# CenturyLink, Inc. Employees' Political Action Committee

#### Ex Officio Trustees of the Board

David C. Bartlett, Chairman

**VP Federal Government Affairs** 

William (Bill) C. Hanchey - Vice Chairman

VP Regional Regulatory & Legislative Affairs

Garland (Clay) C. Bailey, Board Member

SVP Public Policy & Government Affairs

Stacey W. Goff – Board Member

Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, General Counsel & Secretary

Melissa H. Mann, Board Member

VP Regional Regulatory & Legislative Affairs

#### Non-Voting Treasurer

Brian Adkins - Non-Voting Treasurer

**VP Federal Government Relations** 

#### At Large Trustees

Craig Davis - At Large Member

**SVP Wholesale** 

Andrew Dugan - At Large Member

SVP Technology Planning & Network Architecture

Kathy Lutito - At Large Member

SVP Finance

Stephanie Polk - At Large Member

**VP Customer Advocacy** 

Paul Savill – At Large Member

**SVP Core Network & Technology Solutions** 

David Young – At Large Member

Regional VP Federal



### CenturyLink Federal PAC Contributions

The following table lists, on an aggregated state-by-state basis, the contributions made by the CenturyLink, Inc. Employees' Political Action Committee, including those made to federal and state candidates, national and state party committees, and leadership PACs and other committees.

	Tatal Cantributions
CenturyLink Federal PAC	Total Contributions January 1 - June 30, 2020
Arizona	3,500
Arkansas	1,000
California	2,500
Colorado	2,500
Delaware	2,000
Florida	1,000
Hawaii	5,000
Illinois	6,000
Iowa	1,000
Kansas	7,000
Louisiana	23,750
Michigan	1,000
Missouri	1,000
Nevada	1,000
Nebraska	6,000
New Jersey	6,000
New York	2,500
North Carolina	4,500
Ohio	6,500
Oregon	1,250
Pennsylvania	2,500
South Carolina	1,500
Vermont	1,000
Virginia	3,500
Washington	1,000
Wisconsin	1,000
Wyoming	1,000
National	50,000
<u>Total</u>	146,500



### CenturyLink State PAC Contributions

The following table lists, on an aggregated state-by-state basis, the contributions made by CenturyLink state PACs, including those made to candidate committees, state or local party committees or other groups, and political action committees.

CenturyLink State PAC Contributions by State	Total Contribution (Jan 1 - June 30, 2020)
Arizona	7,650
Idaho	13,850
Pennsylvania	5,000
Montana	875
Utah	3,750
Washington	26,000
Total	57,125

### CenturyLink Corporate Contributions

The following table lists, on an aggregated state-by-state basis, the corporate contributions made by CenturyLink to (1) candidate committees (referred to as "Candidate Committees"); (2) party organizations, ballot measure groups or other groups (referred to collectively as "Party Organizations or Other Groups"); and (3) political action committees (referred to as "PACs").

CenturyLink Corporate Contributions by State and Category	Total Contributions January 1 - June 30, 2020
Colorado - Party Organizations or Other Groups	
	5,000
Arizona - Party Organizations or Other Groups	7,000
Hawaii - Candidate Committees	500
Kansas - Party Organizations or Other Groups	1,000
Kansas - Candidate Committees	4,400
Louisiana -Candidate Committees	17,500
Minnesota - Party Organizations or Other Groups	5,000



Mississippi - Candidate Committees	1,000
Nebraska - Candidate Committees	9,000
New Mexico - Candidate Committees	1,700
New York - Candidate Committee	1,000
New York - Party Organizations or Other Groups	3,000
Virginia - Party Organizations or Other Groups	2,500
Total	58,600

### Association Memberships and Related Engagements

The following tables list national and state business and trade associations ("Associations") to which CenturyLink has made annual payments (i.e., annual dues, assessments and/or contributions) from corporate funds in excess of \$25,000. A portion of the total payments made to each Association may be allocated to non-deductible lobbying and political expenditures, as determined by such Association and computed pursuant to I.R.C. § 162(e) and Treas. Reg. § 1.162.29. The aggregate of such amounts is included at the end of this Section. Finally, Associations listed are identified using the same criteria (other than the new, \$25,000 threshold) as in prior Reports.

Trade Association Memberships	Total Contribution January 1 through June 30, 2020
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US Telecom Association	661,715
Minnesota Telecom Alliance	65,000
Internet Governance Coalition	50,000
Louisiana Telecommunications Association	128,745
Illinois Telecommunications Association	25,154
US Council for International Business	31,400
Nebraska Telecom Assoc	21,482
Ohio Telecom Association	34,577
Oregon Telecommunications Association	25,250
Pennsylvania Telephone Association	49,500
Total	1,092,824
Aggregated Lobbying Portion	145,012



## Other Organizations

The following table lists, on an aggregated basis, CenturyLink's giving to tax exempt 501(C)(4) entities and "unregulated" 527 entities, to the extent such organizations are not regulated under state or federal campaign finance laws. These amounts are included in, and are not in addition to, amounts shown in the "CenturyLink Federal PAC Contributions," "CenturyLink State PAC Contributions" and "CenturyLink Corporate Contributions" tables above, as applicable.

Other Organizations - Non-Profit	Total Contributions January 1 - June 30, 2020
InvisionAZ	7,000
Energized for Change PAC	1,000
Total	8,000