

Proposed NAFUSA Policy on Public Issues

The question of whether NAFUSA should take a public position on certain issues has arisen with increasing frequency. President Richard H. Deane appointed this committee to consider the circumstances and procedure to be followed when there is such a request.

The Committee proposes the following policy and recommends its adoption by the Board:

1. NAFUSA was founded as a non-partisan organization, to promote, defend, and further the integrity and the preservation of the litigating authority and independence of the Office of the United States Attorney.
2. Any public position taken by NAFUSA (which would include public statements, letters, or other written or oral expressions on behalf of NAFUSA) should be on an issue which furthers these objectives. Public positions on more general issues of the administration of justice are not likely to be considered.
3. It is expected that public positions will be taken rarely, and only for compelling reasons and when there appears to be general consensus of the membership, having in mind the collegial and non-partisan nature of NAFUSA.
4. Such public positions will be authorized by a super-majority vote of the Board (75% of those eligible to vote). Votes may be taken by phone or email ballot.
5. This policy is not intended to restrict the ability of any individual member of NAFUSA, including officers and directors, to take personal and public positions on any issue, including controversial issues. If necessary, every effort should be made to make clear that the member is not representing or speaking on behalf of NAFUSA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Process Committee

Ron Woods, Co-Chair

Don Stern, Co-Chair

Terry Flynn

Charles Stevens

Jeff Taylor

Richard Rossman

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