



## Public Advocacy Policy

This policy provides the standards for which TVPI can advocate for public policy where it may be lacking or where improvements can be made. TVPI will use the organization's position strategically and thoughtfully, but in no instance will the board take action that is contrary to the vision and mission of the organization.

The following outlines the principles by which TVPI will consider taking public policy stands, and a process to follow when making such a decision.

- Only the board of directors can decide on an official policy stand by the organization.
- Suggestions for taking a policy stand can come from the board, from staff or from external stakeholders. These suggestions should be sent, in writing, to the Board of Directors and addressed to the President/Board Chair.
- A proposed public policy position can be considered by the board or may first be referred to an existing committee or ad hoc study group for further examination and planning.
- TVPI will consider taking an organizational stand if all of the conditions below are met:
  1. The issue directly or indirectly affects our residents and/or our organization.
  2. The issue and the public policy changed are within our area of expertise and knowledge as an organization.
  3. The action will not jeopardize the reputation of the organization.
  4. TVPI has reached out to like-minded organizations to assess their interest and support.
  5. In making the decision to take a position or stand, TVPI will determine whether the organization is assuming a leadership role in the community on the matter or primarily supporting others to take the leadership role.
  6. TVPI will develop a realistic plan for how to communicate our stand to the appropriate people and what actions are required to implement the stand. This plan will include an estimate of how much board and staff time might be involved in taking this action.
  7. Our advocacy action will, unless the Board decides otherwise, be carried out in a non-partisan manner.
- Where our actions involve letters to officials, letters to editors, and open letters to the public, they will be signed by the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Managing Director.

- Where actions involve press conferences or briefings initiated by TVPI, they will be facilitated by the Managing Director and the Board Chair or another board officer as assigned by the board.
- Where TVPI actions involve public demonstrations, board members are expected to participate.
- All TVPI Policies, including any public policy position, will be posted on the organizations' website.
- Public policy advocacy expire after one year from adoption unless the board acts to change the period or rescind the action.

Adopted by TVPI Board on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucas J. Herring". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'L' and 'H'.

Board President

August 21st, 2025