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REP. BYRON DONALDS
Following Florida's Political Money Trail

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The Donor Ecosystem Behind Byron Donalds: A Deep Investigation

An examination of approximately \$93.27 million in Donalds-linked fundraising activity across a candidate committee and a connected Florida political committee, based on updated filings for the period ending July 10, 2026, public records, and a clear breakdown of the donor numbers so readers can see the receipts for themselves.

COMBINED SCALE

\$93.27M

Approximate Donalds-linked fundraising shown across the official campaign committee and Friends of Byron Donalds PAC files reviewed.

CANDIDATE COMMITTEE

\$11.37M

About 95,227 contribution entries from February 26, 2025 through July 10, 2026, with approximately 37,463 unique contributors.

FRIENDS OF BYRON DONALDS PAC

\$81.90M

About 1,721 records from February 26, 2025 through July 9, 2026, with approximately 1,459 unique contributors.

Critical Legal Distinction

The campaign committee and PAC are **separate legal entities under Florida law**. The candidate committee is directly controlled by Donalds and subject to contribution limits. The PAC, classified as a “Friends of” political committee under Florida statute, can accept unlimited contributions but cannot coordinate directly with the campaign. The combined figure is used here **for scale**; it is **not** a single unified pot of money.

Executive Summary

The 2026 Florida gubernatorial race has already generated substantial fundraising activity tied to U.S. Rep. Byron Donalds, with approximately **\$93.27 million** appearing across his campaign committee and a connected political committee in the filings reviewed. This report, based on analysis of official Florida Division of Elections filings and independent verification through public records, maps the donor networks behind that fundraising and organizes the totals, donor categories, and geographic patterns into a public-facing set of receipts.

The key finding is not simply that the fundraising is large. It is that the money appears to come from a distinct and concentrated ecosystem of donors: billionaire financiers, gambling interests, energy utilities, private prison operators, conservative advocacy organizations, and other industry-linked contributors whose support is clustered in ways that merit closer scrutiny.

The records show a fundraising operation that is both unusually large and unusually concentrated among a recognizable set of high-dollar donors and aligned organizations.

The Financial Scale: Two Buckets, One Picture

The financial picture comes from two official contribution streams reviewed side by side: Donalds' candidate committee and the Friends of Byron Donalds PAC.

Entity	Approximate Total Contributions	Records	Date Range	Approximate Unique Contributors
Candidate Committee Byron Donalds for Governor / Governor Campaign	\$11.37 million	95,227 individual contribution records	Feb. 26, 2025 through July 10, 2026	37,463
Friends of Byron Donalds PAC	\$81.90 million	1,721 records	Feb. 26, 2025 through July 10, 2026	1,459
Combined Donalds-Linked Fundraising	\$93.27 million	Combined for scale across both entities; not a single unified pot of money		

Why the distinction matters: The campaign committee is [subject to contribution limits](#) and directly controlled by the candidate. The PAC can accept unlimited contributions, but cannot lawfully coordinate directly with the campaign. As a result, the combined total is most useful as a measure of the broader Donalds political fundraising universe, not as a unified pool of spendable campaign funds.

The Donor Ecosystem: Mapping the Money

This review found that the donor universe is not a generic collection of anonymous supporters. It is a specific ecosystem, with major money concentrated among identifiable industries and ideological networks.

1. The Billionaire Class: Technology and Finance

Jeff Yass (Susquehanna International Group) emerges as the single largest donor in the PAC file, with **\$7.5 million in total PAC**

contributions, including \$5 million in March 2025 and \$2.5 million in March 2026. Yass is a Pennsylvania-based billionaire investor, co-founder of Susquehanna International Group, and was described in public reporting as having an estimated net worth of \$67 billion according to [Forbes](#). His importance here is not simply monetary; it also reflects the role of nationally active mega-donors in state-level contests.

The [source material](#) further notes that Yass holds a major investment stake in ByteDance, the Chinese parent company of TikTok, placing him at the center of broader national security and technology policy debates.

Thomas Peterffy (Interactive Brokers) gave **\$1.2 million to the PAC**. He is widely [identified](#) as a Hungarian-born American billionaire, founder and chairman of Interactive Brokers, and a major Republican megadonor who has funded campaigns across the country, including Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin.

Richard Uihlein (Uline Corporation) accounts for **\$2 million** in PAC support. [Richard](#) is described as one of the most influential Republican donors nationally, with a long history of backing conservative candidates and causes.

2. Gambling and Casino Interests

Seminole Tribe of Florida contributed **\$4 million to the PAC** across multiple contributions throughout 2025 and 2026. The tribe is best known as the operator of Hard Rock Casinos and notes the political significance of its support, particularly given its historically strong alignment with Governor Ron DeSantis.

Steve Wynn (Wynn Resorts) gave **\$1 million**. [Public reporting](#) identifies Wynn as a billionaire casino magnate and former owner of

Wynn Resorts, while also noting scrutiny of his political giving amid past [misconduct allegations](#).

FanDuel Inc. contributed **\$500,000**, and **DK Crown Holdings Inc. (DraftKings)** contributed **\$500,000**. Taken together, these donations point to sustained online gambling industry interest in Florida's regulatory environment.

3. Energy and Utilities

NextEra Energy Capital Holdings Inc. contributed **\$1 million to the PAC**. The source material identifies the company as the parent of Florida Power & Light, the state's largest electric utility, and flags its interests in data center development and electricity demand. In a race where energy policy and industrial growth matter, this donor relationship stands out for its policy relevance.

4. Private Prisons and Corrections

The GEO Group Inc. gave **\$1.5 million**. The company is widely described as a private prison operator involved in detention center management and community reentry services, and notes that it has [faced criticism over immigration detention](#) practices and prison conditions. Its support also places it within a wider pattern of Republican-aligned corporate political giving.

5. Conservative Advocacy and Party Infrastructure

Club for Growth Action Florida contributed **\$3.75 million**. The group is a conservative business advocacy organization focused on limited government and free-market policies, and notes that it has endorsed

Donalds and provided substantial financial backing.

GOPAC Election Fund contributed **\$2 million**. Its role is presented as more than financial: it sits within longstanding Republican political infrastructure and candidate support networks.

6. Short-Term Rental Industry

Airbnb, through the intermediary political committee “The People Versus The Powerful” PAC, contributed **\$1 million** that was then transferred to Friends of Byron Donalds PAC. The source material highlights the political relevance of that contribution by connecting it to Donalds’ prior support, as a state representative in 2020, for legislation to [block local regulation of vacation rentals](#). In a state where local governments continue to wrestle with housing affordability and neighborhood disruption tied to short-term rentals, the donation is noteworthy for both its size and its policy context.

Geographic Distribution: Florida vs. Out-of-State

The records show that Florida remains the largest fundraising base, but out-of-state donors especially for the PAC play a substantial role.

Entity	Florida	Out-of-State
Candidate Committee	\$8.10 million (71.3%)	\$3.27 million (28.7%)

Entity	Florida	Out-of-State
Friends of Byron Donalds PAC	\$53.28 million (65.1%)	\$28.62 million (34.9%)

The PAC's out-of-state footprint is especially important because it is the vehicle that can accept unlimited contributions under Florida law. In the updated files, the leading out-of-state sources were **Pennsylvania (\$8.35 million, primarily Jeff Yass), Virginia (\$3.63 million), Illinois (\$2.42 million), California (\$2.17 million), Texas (\$1.95 million), and New York (\$1.59 million).**

Methodology and Limitations

This report is grounded in updated official Florida campaign finance records for the filing period ending **July 10, 2026**, along with related public-source verification. It relies on the candidate committee contributions file, the Friends of Byron Donalds PAC contributions file, Florida committee records, and public reporting.

Important Caution on Interpretation

Campaign finance filings are useful for tracking money, donor networks, and fundraising patterns. They are not magic windows into motive. On their own, they do not prove corruption, quid pro quo arrangements, or unlawful coordination. This report draws a clear line between what the records show and what people may reasonably infer from them.

SOURCE NOTES & RESOURCES

The following links are the source materials and reference records specified for investigative report:

1. Candidate Contributions File



Florida Department of State
Division of Elections

2026 General Election
Byron Donalds (REP)
Governor

Campaign Finance Activity

Note: The information presented below was obtained from the Committee's/Candidate's Campaign Treasurer's Report filed with the Division of Elections. [About the Campaign Finance Data Base](#).

	Filing Period	Contributions			Expend	Other	Transfers
		Monetary	Loans	InKind			
○	02/26/2025 - 03/31/2025	539,187.77	0.00	1,100.00	126,087.34	1,100.00	0.00
○	04/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	1,272,786.70	0.00	0.00	661,185.16	21,049.75	0.00
○	07/01/2025 - 09/30/2025	1,340,604.39	0.00	2,649.37	818,625.25	16,391.00	0.00
○	10/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	1,311,021.64	0.00	114,347.84	883,077.46	21,420.40	0.00
○	01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026	2,640,686.83	0.00	331,088.97	630,597.01	22,016.33	0.00
○	04/01/2026 - 05/31/2026	2,135,730.04	0.00	354,836.67	686,945.45	20,179.40	0.00
○	06/01/2026 - 06/12/2026	348,973.77	0.00	97,778.45	366,325.92	20,724.12	0.00
○	06/13/2026 - 06/19/2026	252,999.69	0.00	73.35	2,883.44	0.00	0.00
○	06/20/2026 - 06/26/2026	116,193.85	0.00	47,326.57	17,425.27	2,156.53	0.00
○	06/27/2026 - 07/03/2026	288,078.08	0.00	41,247.10	419,418.33	10,089.65	0.00
○	07/04/2026 - 07/10/2026	134,152.85	0.00	2,500.00	12,385.59	0.00	0.00
⊕	All Dates (Totals)	10,380,415.61	0.00	992,948.32	4,624,956.22	135,127.18	0.00

Note: (E) indicates that report was filed electronically

X Indicates that detail has not been released

W Indicates that a waiver was filed and L Indicates that a loan report was filed

Source Receipt:

<https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/campaign-finance/contributions/>

2. PAC Contributions File



Florida Department of State
Division of Elections

Friends of Byron Donalds PAC

Campaign Finance Activity

Note: The information presented below was obtained from the Committee's/Candidate's Campaign Treasurer's Report filed with the Division of Elections. [About the Campaign Finance Data Base](#). If all contributions for a reporting period are less than 1 dollar Then they may not be displayed.

	Filing Period	Contributions			Expend	Other	Transfers
		Monetary	Loans	InKind			
○	02/16/2025 - 03/31/2025	11,573,586.53	0.00	0.00	18,709.65	0.00	0.00
○	04/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	8,896,195.19	0.00	77,122.20	593,247.17	5,645.96	0.00
○	07/01/2025 - 09/30/2025	8,023,387.92	0.00	12,396.79	882,111.10	11,986.31	0.00
○	10/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	12,311,423.76	0.00	9,498.36	2,877,957.22	21,983.08	0.00
○	01/01/2026 - 03/31/2026	19,771,648.19	0.00	96,939.93	2,067,034.36	4,663.54	0.00
○	04/01/2026 - 05/31/2026	11,896,740.00	0.00	52,946.13	5,655,162.70	4,898.93	0.00
○	06/01/2026 - 06/12/2026	1,451,300.00	0.00	2,522.40	1,610,916.77	0.00	0.00
○	06/13/2026 - 06/19/2026	435,000.00	0.00	1,403.00	3,686.75	0.00	0.00
○	06/20/2026 - 06/26/2026	1,849,421.81	0.00	411.95	4,325,410.18	1,703.23	0.00
○	06/27/2026 - 07/03/2026	4,747,092.40	0.00	8,782.35	1,868,494.24	0.00	0.00
○	07/04/2026 - 07/10/2026	679,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,882,850.91	0.00	0.00
⊕	All Dates (Totals)	81,634,795.80	0.00	262,023.11	26,785,581.05	50,881.05	0.00

Note: (E) indicates that report was filed electronically

X Indicates that detail has not been released

W Indicates that a waiver was filed and L Indicates that a loan report was filed

Source Receipt: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/committees/>

3. Florida Committee Detail: Friends of Byron Donalds PAC

Source Receipt:

<https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/committees/ComDetail.asp?account=89043>

4. Forbes Profile: Jeff Yass

Source Receipt:

<https://www.forbes.com/profile/jeff-yass/>

5. News Article: The billionaire trying to reinvent Florida schools has a \$7.5 million bet on Byron Donalds

Source Receipt:

<https://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/the-billionaire-trying-to-reinvent-florida-schools-has-a-7-5-million-bet-on-byron-donalds-40565603/>

6. Forbes Profile: Thomas Peterffy

Source Receipt:

<https://www.forbes.com/profile/thomas-peterffy/>

7. Forbes Profile: Richard Uihlein

Source Receipt:

<https://www.forbes.com/profile/richard-uihlein/>

8. Forbes Profile: Steve Wynn

Source Receipt:

<https://www.forbes.com/profile/steve-wynn/>

9. News Article: Casino mogul Steve Wynn to pay \$10m over sexual harassment claims

Source Receipt:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-66328079>

10. News Article: The founder of a private company accused of mistreating ICE detainees came to the US via Ellis Island in 1953

Source Receipt:

<https://www.cnn.com/us/george-zoley-geo-group-ice-immigration>

11. News Article: Airbnb gives \$1 million to Byron Donalds as rentals remain a Suncoast flashpoint

Source Receipt:

<https://www.mysuncoast.com/2026/07/01/airbnb-gives-1-million-byron-donalds-rentals-remain-suncoast-flashpoint/>

12. News Article: Byron Donalds committee to flood Florida airwaves with \$20M ad blitz

Source Receipt:

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/804024-byron-donalds-committee-to-flood-florida-airwaves-with-20-million-ad-blitz/>



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