



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**Raised Bill No. 6694**

LCO No. 4318

\*04318 \_\_\_\_\_ GAE\*

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE CODE OF ETHICS FOR LOBBYISTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (l) of section 1-91 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2009*):

4 (l) "Lobbyist" means: [a] (1) A person who in lobbying and in  
5 furtherance of lobbying makes or agrees to make expenditures, or  
6 receives or agrees to receive compensation, reimbursement, or both,  
7 and such compensation, reimbursement or expenditures are two  
8 thousand dollars or more in any calendar year or the combined  
9 amount thereof is two thousand dollars or more in any such calendar  
10 year; or (2) a person for whom lobbying is within the normal scope of  
11 such person's employment and such person's compensation,  
12 reimbursement or expenditures, or any combination thereof, for  
13 lobbying are two thousand dollars or more in any calendar year.  
14 Lobbyist shall not include:

15 (1) A public official, employee of a branch of state government or a  
16 subdivision thereof, or elected or appointed official of a municipality  
17 or his designee other than an independent contractor, who is acting  
18 within the scope of his authority or employment;

19 (2) A publisher, owner or an employee of the press, radio or  
20 television while disseminating news or editorial comment to the  
21 general public in the ordinary course of business;

22 (3) An individual representing himself or another person before the  
23 legislature or a state agency other than for the purpose of influencing  
24 legislative or administrative action;

25 (4) Any individual or employee who receives no compensation or  
26 reimbursement specifically for lobbying and who limits his activities  
27 solely to formal appearances to give testimony before public sessions  
28 of committees of the General Assembly or public hearings of state  
29 agencies and who, if he testifies, registers his appearance in the records  
30 of such committees or agencies;

31 (5) A member of an advisory board acting within the scope of his  
32 appointment;

33 (6) A senator or representative in Congress acting within the scope  
34 of his office;

35 (7) Any person who receives no compensation or reimbursement  
36 specifically for lobbying and who spends no more than five hours in  
37 furtherance of lobbying unless such person (A) exclusive of salary,  
38 receives compensation or makes expenditures, or both, of two  
39 thousand dollars or more in any calendar year for lobbying or the  
40 combined amount thereof is two thousand dollars or more in any such  
41 calendar year, or (B) expends fifty dollars or more for the benefit of a  
42 public official in the legislative or executive branch, a member of his  
43 staff or immediate family;

44 (8) A communicator lobbyist who receives or agrees to receive

45 compensation, reimbursement, or both, the aggregate amount of which  
46 is less than two thousand dollars from each client in any calendar year.

47 Sec. 2. Section 1-94 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
48 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

49 A lobbyist shall register with the Office of State Ethics pursuant to  
50 this part if it or he:

51 (1) Receives or agrees to receive compensation or reimbursement for  
52 actual expenses, or both, in a combined amount of two thousand  
53 dollars or more in a calendar year for lobbying, whether that receipt of  
54 compensation or reimbursement or agreement to receive such  
55 compensation or reimbursement is solely for lobbying or the lobbying  
56 is [incidental to] within the normal scope of that person's regular  
57 employment; or

58 (2) Makes or incurs an obligation to make expenditures of two  
59 thousand dollars or more in a calendar year for lobbying.

60 Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 1-96 of the general statutes is  
61 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
62 *1, 2009*):

63 (e) Each client lobbyist registrant financial report shall be on a form  
64 prescribed by the board and shall state expenditures made and the  
65 fundamental terms of contracts, agreements or promises to pay  
66 compensation or reimbursement or to make expenditures in  
67 furtherance of lobbying. Any such fundamental terms shall be  
68 reported once in the monthly, quarterly or post-termination report  
69 next following the entering into of such contract. Such financial report  
70 shall include an itemized statement of each expenditure of ten dollars  
71 or more per person for each occasion made by the reporting registrant  
72 or a group of registrants which includes the reporting registrant for the  
73 benefit of a public official in the legislative or executive branch, a  
74 member of his staff or immediate family, itemized by date, beneficiary,

75 amount and circumstances of the transaction. The requirement of an  
76 itemized statement shall not apply to an expenditure made by a  
77 reporting registrant or a group of registrants which includes the  
78 reporting registrant for (1) the benefit of the members of the General  
79 Assembly at an event that is a reception to which all such members are  
80 invited or all members of a region of the state, as such term is used in  
81 subdivision (11) of subsection (g) of section 1-91, are invited, unless the  
82 expenditure is thirty dollars or more per person, or (2) benefits  
83 personally and directly received by a public official or state employee  
84 at a charitable or civic event at which the public official or state  
85 employee participates in his official capacity, unless the expenditure is  
86 thirty dollars or more per person, per event. If the compensation is  
87 required to be reported for an individual whose lobbying is [incidental  
88 to his] within the normal scope of such person's regular employment,  
89 it shall be sufficient to report a prorated amount based on the value of  
90 the time devoted to lobbying. On the first financial report following  
91 registration each client lobbyist registrant shall include any  
92 expenditures incident to lobbying activities which were received or  
93 expended prior to registration and not previously reported to the  
94 Office of State Ethics.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	1-91(l)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	1-94
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	1-96(e)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To provide a bright line test for who constitutes a "lobbyist" under the state code of ethics.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*