



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION KEY SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS IN RAISED BILL No. 35 - "AN ACT CONCERNING THE OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS AND REVISIONS TO THE STATE CODES OF ETHICS"

- **Sections 1, 10 and 13 - Amendment to sections 1-79, 1-91 and 1-96 of the general statutes -** amends two gift exceptions under sections 1-79 (e) and 1-91 (g) of the general statutes to include the term "candidate for public office." Subdivision (14) of 1-79 (e) and subdivision (14) of 1-91 (g) exempts from gift restrictions admission to charitable and civic events. Subdivision (15) of 1-79 (e) and subdivision (15) of 1-91 (g) exempts benefits provided by an employer when such benefits are provided to others under similar circumstances; adds "candidate for public office" to lobbyists' reporting of gifts under §1-96.
- **Section 5 - Amendment to section 1-80 of the general statutes -** requires prospective members of the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board ("CEAB") to certify that they are aware of special restrictions imposed on board members under the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.
- **Section 8 - Amendment to section 1-85 of the general statutes -** addresses substantive conflicts of interest to official action involving public officials' non-state employer by extending the prohibition whereby public officials or state employees, other than elected state officials, would be restricted from taking official action for the benefit of other employers. Elected officials who have a conflict concerning a direct monetary gain or loss for their other employer may either recuse themselves or prepare a written statement under penalty of false statement for the agency journal or minutes and Office of State Ethics ("OSE") that describes the matter requiring action, the nature of the potential conflict, and why they are able to vote despite it.
- **Section 9 - Amendment to section 1-86 of the general statutes -** extends the prohibition concerning potential conflicts of interests, whereby public officials or state employees, other than elected state officials, would be restricted from taking official action for the benefit of other employers, and when necessary, disclose the existence of a conflict involving an outside employer.
- **Sections 12 and 13 - Amendment to sections 1-94 and 1-96 of the general statutes -** redefines lobbyist registration and reporting requirements by those who lobby "within the scope of employment."
- **Section 20 - Amendment to section 38a-1081 of the general statutes -** clarifies that the board members of the State Health Insurance Exchange are subject to the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.