



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

RAISED BILL No. 36 - "AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE STATE CODES OF ETHICS"

- **Section 1 - Amendment to section 1-79 of the general statutes** - amends the "gifts to the state" exception to the prohibition on gifts by including participation of public officials and state employees at an event that facilitates state or quasi-public agency action or functions.
- **Section 2 - Amendment to section 1-84c of the general statutes** - requires that the heads of state agencies file an electronic form (similar to "necessary expenses" form) with the Office of State Ethics ("OSE") certifying that a gift to support participation of agency employees at an event is indeed an appropriate gift to the state and that such gift facilitates state actions or functions.
- **Section 3 - Amendment to subsection (a) of section 1-80 of the general statutes** - minimizes the possibility of a lack of a quorum of the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board ("CEAB") and stagger terms so that only two, and in one instance three, members would be replaced each year; permits CEAB members to continue serving for limited purpose of adjudicating at a board hearing.
- **Section 4 - Amendment to subsection (b) of section 1-80 of the general statutes** - expands the pool of qualified candidates who could be eligible to serve on the CEAB by allowing justices of the peace and notaries to serve on the Board.
- **Section 6 - Amendment to subsection (i) of section 1-80 of the general statutes** - restricts the staff of the OSE and members of the CEAB from participating in political campaigns of individuals who are subject to the jurisdiction of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.
- **Section 12 - Amendment to subsection (q) of section 1-84 of the general statutes** - adds the "knowingly" element to the provision that prohibits public officials and employees from counseling, authorizing or sanctioning violations of the code of ethics.
- **Sections 14, 17 and 18 - Amendment to sections 1-91, 1-94 and 1-95 of the general statutes** - increases the threshold for lobbyist registrations from \$2,000 to \$3,000.
- **Other Amendments** - Sections 7 and 16 - give the OSE the authority to interpret Parts III and IV of chapter 10 of the general statutes; Section 13 - permits the OSE to recover the amount of any financial benefit received by a state contractor for certain ethics violations; Section 26 - adds a violation of section 1-101nn of the general statutes to the list of violations that are grounds for disqualifying a state contractor; and section 27 - extend ethics enforcement to existing revolving door provisions of the Gaming Policy Board.