

**Government Administration and Elections Committee
JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT**

Bill No.: HB-5174

Title: AN ACT RESTRICTING LOBBYING BY FORMER LEGISLATIVE EMPLOYEES.

Vote Date: 3/9/2018

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/26/2018

File No.: 29

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Rep. Melissa H. Ziobron, 34th Dist.

Rep. Craig C. Fishbein, 90th Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

The bill amends revolving-door restrictions by prohibiting state employees from accepting employment as a lobbyist within one year of leaving state employment. If enacted, the provision would help to get rid of the perceived conflict of interest that former state employees are using privileged information in their current position.

Proposed Substitute Language LCO# 2048 :

In Sec. 1(l), "in the legislative branch" was added for clarity.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Carol Carson, Executive Director, Office of State Ethics (OSE)

Ms. Carson noted that the revolving-door restrictions do not apply to non-elected legislative branch officials and employees. OSE believes that the proposed bill goes beyond the purpose of the revolving-door provision that deals with compensated representation before one's former agency. She urged the Committee to agree with current revolving-door restrictions imposed on former executive branch or quasi-public agency public officials or state employees by extending it to non-elected legislative branch officials and employees only.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Rep. Melissa H. Ziobron, 34th Dist.

Rep. Ziobron raised some concerns from personal observations she has made over the years about the relationship between former committee staff that went on to become lobbyists. She asserts that state employees should live by the same standards as elected officials.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Susan Tufts

Date: 3/26/2018