

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

Bill No.: SB-176

AN ACT REQUIRING THE REPORTING OF CERTAIN GIFTS TO THE STATE

Title: UNDER THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS.

Vote Date: 3/9/2018

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/26/2018

File No.: 24

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill requires legislators and state agency heads to report any “gifts to the state”. By reporting these gifts, the State can cut down on legislators’ votes being swayed in the direction of political interest groups and lobbyists.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Carol Carson, Executive Director, Office of State Ethics (OSE): The OSE supports this bill SB 176. Legislation requiring State agency heads to report any “Gifts to the state” has existed in the past. In 2005, legislative changes were made to eliminate the requirement of reporting said gifts. Statute changes were made again in 2013 but did not reinstate the reporting requirement. OSE believes that public officials and state employees who “personally benefit from such donations will provide transparency and accountability.” Also, SB No. 176 does not have any fiscal impact.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed.

Reported by: Christian Tynan

Date: 4/3/2018

