



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 458

January Session, 2019

Senate Bill No. 1039

Senate, April 4, 2019

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL INTEREST.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 1-83 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (c) The statement of financial interests filed pursuant to this section
5 shall be a matter of public information, except (1) the names of any
6 dependent children residing in the household of the individual filing
7 such statement shall not be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of
8 Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and (2) the list of names,
9 filed in accordance with subparagraph (F) of subdivision (1) of
10 subsection (b) of this section shall be sealed and confidential and for
11 the use of the Office of State Ethics only after a complaint has been
12 filed under section 1-82 and such complaint has been determined by a
13 vote of the board to be of sufficient merit and gravity to justify the
14 unsealing of such list or lists and not open to public inspection unless
15 the respondent requests otherwise. If the board reports its findings to

16 the Chief State's Attorney in accordance with subsection (c) of section
 17 1-88, the board shall turn over to the Chief State's Attorney such
 18 relevant information contained in the statement as may be germane to
 19 the specific violation or violations or a prosecutorial official may
 20 subpoena such statement in a criminal action. Unless otherwise a
 21 matter of public record, the Office of State Ethics shall not disclose to
 22 the public any such subpoena which would be exempt from disclosure
 23 by the issuing agency.

24 Sec. 2. Subsection (j) of section 4e-2 of the general statutes is
 25 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
 26 *passage*):

27 (j) No employee of the State Contracting Standards Board shall hold
 28 another state or municipal position. No nonclerical employee of the
 29 board or any spouse, child, stepchild, parent or sibling of such
 30 employee, shall be associated with an enterprise that does business
 31 with the state. For purposes of this subsection, "associated with" means
 32 "business with which he is associated", as defined in section 1-79. Each
 33 member and employee of the State Contracting Standards Board shall
 34 file, with the board and with the Office of State Ethics, a statement of
 35 financial interests, as described in section 1-83, as amended by this act.
 36 [Such] Except as provided in section 1-83, as amended by this act, such
 37 statement shall be a public record. Such statements for the preceding
 38 calendar year shall be filed with the Office of State Ethics, as required
 39 by law, if such employee or member held such a position during the
 40 preceding calendar year.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	1-83(c)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	4e-2(j)

GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill, which exempts the names of dependent children residing in the household of a filer of a statement of financial interest from public disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, has no fiscal impact to the State or municipalities.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1039*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL INTEREST.*****SUMMARY**

Existing law requires certain public officials and state employees to annually file financial interest statements that identify certain assets and liabilities held by them, their spouses, and dependent children. This bill exempts the names of dependent children residing in the filer's household from public disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Statements of Financial Interests***

By law, certain officials must annually file by May 1 a statement of financial interests for the preceding calendar year. The law applies to statewide elected officers, legislators, department heads and deputy department heads, members and directors of quasi-public agencies, members of the Investment Advisory Council, state marshals, and any executive branch members or quasi-public agency employees the governor designates.

The statements must, generally, include:

1. the names of associated businesses;
2. all sources of income, including the name of each employer, with a description of each source over \$1,000, without specifying the amounts;
3. the names of securities valued over \$5,000 owned by the

- individual, his or her spouse and dependent children, or held in a corporation, partnership, or trust for them;
4. a list of all real property and its location and whether its owned by the individual, his or her spouse or dependent children, or held in a corporation, partnership, or trust for them;
 5. the existence of any known blind trusts and trustees' names;
 6. the names and addresses of creditors owed more than \$ 10,000;
 7. any state leases or contracts entered into by the individual or an associated business; and
 8. a description of any partnership, joint ownership, or similar business affiliation between an associated business and a registered lobbyist, person doing or seeking to do business with the state; business engaged in activities regulated by the filer's agency; or business associated with the lobbyist or person.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 16 Nay 0 (03/20/2019)