
By: Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee (Departmental - Ethics, State Commission on)

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 1996
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 12, 1996

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Ethics Law - Registration and Disclosure - Local Lobbyists - School Board Lobbyists**

3 FOR the purpose of providing for State registration by persons engaged in lobbying
4 activities in a county, municipal corporation, or school board under certain
5 circumstances; defining filing requirements and information; establishing certain
6 restrictions; providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to
7 lobbying registration and disclosure.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - State Government
10 Section 15-806 and 15-814
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1995 Replacement Volume)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - State Government**

16 15-806.

17 (A) The lobbying provisions enacted by a county or municipal corporation under §
18 15-803 of this subtitle shall be substantially similar to the provisions of Subtitle 7 of this
19 title, but:

20 (1) shall be modified to the extent necessary to make the provisions relevant
21 to that jurisdiction; and

2

1 (2) may be further modified to the extent considered necessary and
2 appropriate by and for that jurisdiction.

3 (B) (1) FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGISTRATION AND ACTIVITY REPORTING
4 ONLY, A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION MAY ELECT TO BE GOVERNED BY
5 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBTITLE 7 OF THIS TITLE AND REQUIRE REGISTRATION
6 AND REPORTING BY LOCAL LOBBYISTS WITH THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION IN
7 LIEU OF OR AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO LOCAL FILING.

8 (2) COPIES OF ALL REGISTRATION FORMS AND REPORTS SUBMITTED
9 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE FORWARDED BY THE STATE ETHICS
10 COMMISSION TO THE DESIGNATED LOCAL DEPOSITORY OF LOBBYIST
11 REGISTRATION AND REPORTING FORMS.

12 (3) THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION
13 SHALL APPLY ONLY IF:

14 (I) THE LOCAL ACTIVITY IS SUFFICIENTLY DESCRIBED AND
15 ACCOUNTED FOR AS TO EXPENDITURES; AND

16 (II) THE PERSON REGISTERED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS
17 CONSIDERED A REGULATED LOBBYIST FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANY LOCAL ETHICS
18 LAW, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO LOBBYIST RESTRICTIONS, CONFLICT OF
19 INTEREST, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

20 15-814.

21 (a) A school board may adopt regulations relating to lobbying of members of the
22 school board and of officials and employees of the school system in accordance with this
23 section.

24 (b) The lobbying regulations adopted by a school board under subsection (a) of
25 this section shall be substantially similar to the provisions of Subtitle 7 of this title, but:

26 (1) may be modified to the extent necessary to make the provisions relevant
27 to that school system; and

28 (2) may be further modified to the extent considered necessary and
29 appropriate by and for that school system.

30 (c) [Unless] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION,
31 UNLESS a school board adopts and maintains lobbying regulations under this subtitle, the
32 provisions enacted by the county under § 15-806 of this subtitle shall apply to that school
33 system.

34 (D) (1) FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGISTRATION AND ACTIVITY REPORTING
35 ONLY, A SCHOOL BOARD MAY ELECT TO BE GOVERNED BY THE REQUIREMENTS OF
36 SUBTITLE 7 OF THIS TITLE AND REQUIRE REGISTRATION AND REPORTING BY
37 SCHOOL BOARD LOBBYISTS WITH THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION IN LIEU OF OR AS
38 AN ALTERNATIVE TO LOCAL FILING.

39 (2) COPIES OF ALL REGISTRATION FORMS AND REPORTS SUBMITTED
40 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE FORWARDED BY THE STATE ETHICS

HOUSE BILL 1156

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1 COMMISSION TO THE DESIGNATED SCHOOL BOARD DEPOSITORY OF LOBBYIST
2 REGISTRATION AND REPORTING FORMS.

3 (3) THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION
4 SHALL APPLY ONLY IF:

5 (I) THE SCHOOL BOARD ACTIVITY IS SUFFICIENTLY DESCRIBED
6 AND ACCOUNTED FOR AS TO EXPENDITURES; AND

7 (II) THE PERSON REGISTERED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS
8 CONSIDERED A REGULATED LOBBYIST FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANY SCHOOL BOARD
9 ETHICS REGULATIONS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO LOBBYIST RESTRICTIONS,
10 CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND SCHOOL BOARD FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 November 1, 1996.