
By: Senator Della

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 1996

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Lobbyists - Solicitations of Political Contributions - Restrictions**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the prohibition against lobbyists from soliciting or
4 transmitting certain contributions to include the campaigns of elected constitutional
5 officers or candidates for election to constitutional elective offices; prohibiting
6 certain lobbyists from serving on a fund-raising or political committee; and
7 generally relating to restrictions on certain fund-raising activities by lobbyists.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article 33 - Election Code
10 Section 26-3(a)(4)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - State Government
15 Section 15-707
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (1995 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article 33 - Election Code**

21 26-3.

22 (a) (4) (i) 1. In this paragraph "lobbyist" means a regulated lobbyist who is
23 described in § 15-701(a)(1), (2), or (3) of the State Government Article.

24 2. A lobbyist, or a person acting on behalf of a lobbyist, may not
25 organize or establish a political committee for the purpose of soliciting or transmitting
26 contributions or transfers from any person to [a member] AN ELECTED
27 CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICER or candidate for election to [the General Assembly] A
28 CONSTITUTIONAL ELECTIVE OFFICE.

29 (ii) This paragraph may not be construed to prohibit a lobbyist from:

2

1 1. Being a candidate; or

2 2. Making a personal contribution within the limitations
3 established under Article 33 of the Code.

4 **Article - State Government**

5 15-707.

6 (a) In this section, "candidate" and "political committee" have the meanings
7 provided in Article 33, § 1-1(a) of the Code.

8 (b) This section applies only to a regulated lobbyist described in §15-701(a)(1),
9 (2), or (3) of this subtitle who, during the period specified in subsection (c) of this section
10 and for the purpose of influencing legislative action, communicates with [a member of]
11 AN ELECTED CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICER or candidate for election to [the General
12 Assembly] A CONSTITUTIONAL ELECTIVE OFFICE.

13 (c) The restrictions in this section apply from the starting date of the regulated
14 lobbyist's registration to the end of the calendar year in which the registration period
15 ends.

16 (d) (1) A regulated lobbyist who is subject to this section or a person acting on
17 behalf of the regulated lobbyist may not, for the benefit of [a member of] AN ELECTED
18 CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICER or candidate for election to [the General Assembly] A
19 CONSTITUTIONAL ELECTIVE OFFICE:

20 (i) solicit or transmit a political contribution from any person,
21 including a political committee;

22 (ii) serve on a fund-raising committee or a political committee; or

23 (iii) act as a treasurer or chairman of a political committee.

24 (2) This section does not prohibit a regulated lobbyist from:

25 (i) making a personal political contribution; or

26 (ii) informing any entity of a position taken by a candidate.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 1996.