
**By: Delegate Taylor and Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee,
and Delegates Dewberry, Hurson, Arnick, Busch, Guns, Harrison, Hixson, Kopp,
Menes, Owings, Rawlings, and Vallario**

Requested: July 17, 1996

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Lobbyist Solicitation of Contributions - Statewide Offices - Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the prohibition against lobbyists from soliciting or
4 transmitting certain contributions to include the campaigns of the Governor,
5 Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller and candidates for
6 election to those offices; prohibiting certain lobbyists from organizing, establishing,
7 or serving as a member of any charitable, fund-raising, or any other entity or
8 committee for certain purposes at the request of the Governor, Lieutenant
9 Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, or any member of the General
10 Assembly, or candidates for election to those offices; prohibiting certain lobbyists
11 from from serving on a fund-raising or political committee; and generally relating to
12 restrictions on certain fund-raising activities by lobbyists.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article 33 - Election Code
15 Section 26-3(a)(4)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article - State Government
20 Section 15-707
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

25 **Article 33 - Election Code**

26 26-3.

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

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1 2. A lobbyist, or a person acting on behalf of a lobbyist, may not
2 organize or establish a political committee for the purpose of soliciting or transmitting
3 contributions or transfers from any person to [a member] THE GOVERNOR,
4 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR MEMBER OF
5 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY or candidate for election to the OFFICE OF GOVERNOR,
6 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR MEMBER OF
7 THE General Assembly.

8 3. A LOBBYIST, OR A PERSON ACTING ON BEHALF OF A
9 LOBBYIST, MAY NOT ORGANIZE, ESTABLISH, OR SERVE AS A MEMBER OF ANY
10 CHARITABLE, FUND-RAISING, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY OR COMMITTEE FOR THE
11 PURPOSE OF SOLICITING OR TRANSMITTING CONTRIBUTIONS, TRANSFERS, OR ANY
12 OTHER FUNDS FROM ANY PERSON TO ANY OTHER PERSON AT THE REQUEST OF THE
13 GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR
14 ANY MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO THE
15 OFFICE OF GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL,
16 COMPTROLLER, OR MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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

18 1. Being a candidate; or

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

21 **Article - State Government**

22 15-707.

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

25 (b) This section applies only to a regulated lobbyist described in § 15-701(a)(1),
26 (2), or (3) of this subtitle who[, during the period specified in subsection (c) of this
27 section and for the purpose of influencing legislative action,] communicates with [a
28 member of or candidate for election to] THE GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,
29 ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
30 OR A CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL,
31 COMPTROLLER, OR MEMBER OF the General Assembly.

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

35 (d) (1) A regulated lobbyist who is subject to this section or a person acting on
36 behalf of the regulated lobbyist may not, for the benefit of [a member of] THE
37 GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR
38 MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY or candidate for election to the OFFICE OF
39 GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR
40 MEMBER OF THE General Assembly:

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

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

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

5 (2) A REGULATED LOBBYIST WHO IS SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION OR A
6 PERSON ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE REGULATED LOBBYIST MAY NOT ORGANIZE,
7 ESTABLISH, OR SERVE AS A MEMBER OF ANY CHARITABLE, FUND-RAISING, OR ANY
8 OTHER ENTITY OR COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOLICITING OR
9 TRANSMITTING CONTRIBUTIONS, TRANSFERS, OR ANY OTHER FUNDS FROM ANY
10 PERSON TO ANY OTHER PERSON AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR,
11 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR ANY MEMBER
12 OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO THE OFFICE OF
13 GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR
14 MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

15 (3) This section does not prohibit a regulated lobbyist from:

16 (i) making a personal political contribution; or

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

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 1997.