Unofficial Copy 1997 Regular Session (PRE-FILED)

G2 7lr0804

By: Delegate Curran

Requested: November 6, 1996

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 1997 Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Lobbyist Reporting Requirements - Special Events

- 3 FOR the purpose of expanding lobbyist reporting requirements for certain functions to
- 4 include events to which all members of a county or regional delegation of the
- 5 General Assembly are invited; providing that a presiding officer of the Senate or
- 6 House of Delegates shall be deemed an ex officio member of a standing committee
- 7 of the presiding officer's chamber for certain reporting purposes; and generally
- 8 relating to lobbyist disclosure requirements.
- 9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
- 10 Article State Government
- 11 Section 15-704(a) and (e)
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)
- 14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 15 Article State Government
- 16 Section 15-704(b)
- 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 18 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)
- 19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 Article - State Government

- 22 15-704.
- 23 (a) (1) A regulated lobbyist shall file with the Ethics Commission, under oath
- 24 and for each registration, a separate report concerning the regulated lobbyist's lobbying
- 25 activities:
- 26 (i) by May 31 of each year, to cover the period from November 1 of
- 27 the previous year through April 30 of the current year; and
- 28 (ii) by November 30 of each year, to cover the period from May 1
- 29 through October 31 of that year.

2

1 2	(2) If the regulated lobbyist is not an individual, an authorized officer or agent of the regulated lobbyist shall sign the report.
3 4	(3) If a prorated amount is reported as compensation, it shall be labeled as prorated.
5	(b) A report required by this section shall include:
6 7	(1) a complete, current statement of the information required under § 15-703(b) of this subtitle;
8 9	(2) total expenditures in connection with influencing executive action or legislative action in each of the following categories:
10	(i) total compensation paid to the regulated lobbyist, excluding:
11	1. expenses reported under this paragraph; and
12 13	2. salaries, compensation, and reimbursed expenses for the regulated lobbyist's staff;
14	(ii) unless reported under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph:
15	1. office expenses of the regulated lobbyist; and
16	2. professional and technical research and assistance;
17 18	(iii) publications that expressly encourage communication with one or more officials or employees;
19 20	(iv) witnesses, including the name of each and the fees and expenses paid to each;
21 22	(v) meals and beverages for officials, employees, or members of the immediate families of officials or employees;
23 24	(vi) special events, including parties, meals, athletic events, entertainment, or other functions to which were invited all members of:
25	1. the General Assembly;
26	2. either house of the General Assembly; [or]
29	3. a standing committee of the General Assembly, PROVIDED THAT THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE SENATE OR HOUSE OF DELEGATES SHALL BE DEEMED AN EX OFFICIO MEMBER OF ANY STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER'S CHAMBER; OR
	4. A COUNTY OR REGIONAL DELEGATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT IS RECOGNIZED BY A PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;
	(vii) 1. food, lodging, and scheduled entertainment of officials and employees for a meeting, if given in return for participation in a panel or speaking engagement at the meeting; and

3

	2. if more than \$200 of the expenses reported in item 1 of this subparagraph are for any one official or employee at any meeting, the individual's name and the amount spent;
4 5	(viii) other gifts to or for officials, employees, or members of the immediate families of officials or employees; and
6	(ix) other expenses;
	(3) as to expenditures reported in paragraph (2)(vi) and (vii) of this subsection, the date, location, and total expense of the regulated lobbyist for the event or meeting; and
12 13 14 15	(4) subject to subsections (d) and (e) of this section, the name of each official, employee, or member of the immediate family of an official or employee, to or for whom, during a reporting period, one or more gifts with a cumulative value of \$75 or more are given, regardless of whether a gift is attributable to more than one entity and whether or not in connection with lobbying activities, by the regulated lobbyist or any entity acting on behalf of the regulated lobbyist, however, except as provided in paragraph (2)(vii)2 of this subsection, expenses reported in paragraph (2)(vi) and (vii) of this subsection need not be allocated to an individual.
20 21 22 23 24	(e) (1) (i) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, in addition to any other report required under this section, a regulated lobbyist shall file, with the report required by subsection (a) of this section, a report disclosing the name of any State official of the Executive or Legislative Branch or member of the immediate family of a State official of the Executive or Legislative Branch who has benefited during the reporting period from gifts of meals or beverages, whether or not in connection with lobbying activities, allowed under § 15-505(c)(2)(i) of this title from the regulated lobbyist.
28	(ii) The name of a member of the General Assembly or member of the immediate family of a member of the General Assembly shall be disclosed under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph only if the gift of a meal or beverage to the individual costs \$15 or more.
	(2) Gifts reported by name of recipient under subsection (b)(2)(vii) of this section and special events listed under subsection (b)(2)(vi) of this section need not be allocated for the purposes of disclosure under paragraph (1) of this subsection.
33 34	(3) The disclosure required by this subsection shall be under oath or affirmation, on a form issued by the Ethics Commission, and shall include:
35	(i) the name and business address of the regulated lobbyist;
36	(ii) the name of each recipient of a gift of a meal or beverages;
37 38	(iii) the date and value of each gift of a meal or beverages, and the identity of the entity or entities to which the gift is attributable; and
39 40	(iv) the total cumulative value of gifts of meals or beverages, calculated as to each recipient.

4

1	(4) The regulated lobbyist may:
	(i) declare on the form required under paragraph (3) of this subsection that a gift of a meal or beverages was given for purposes not related to the regulated lobbyist's lobbying activities; and
5 6	(ii) explain the circumstances under which the gift of a meal or beverages was given.
	(5) Gifts of meals or beverages reported by a regulated lobbyist under this subsection need not be counted or reported by the regulated lobbyist for purposes of disclosure under subsection (b)(4) of this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 11 October 1, 1997.