

---

**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) If the regulated lobbyist is not an individual, an authorized officer or  
2 agent of the regulated lobbyist shall sign the report.

3 (3) If a prorated amount is reported as compensation, it shall be labeled as  
4 prorated.

5 (b) A report required by this section shall include:

6 (1) a complete, current statement of the information required under §  
7 15-703(b) of this subtitle;

8 (2) total expenditures in connection with influencing executive action or  
9 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 2. salaries, compensation, and reimbursed expenses for the  
13 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 (iii) publications that expressly encourage communication with one or  
18 more officials or employees;

19 (iv) witnesses, including the name of each and the fees and expenses  
20 paid to each;

21 (v) meals and beverages for officials, employees, or members of the  
22 immediate families of officials or employees;

23 (vi) special events, including parties, meals, athletic events,  
24 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]
- 27 3. a standing committee of the General Assembly, PROVIDED  
28 THAT THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE SENATE OR HOUSE OF DELEGATES SHALL BE  
29 DEEMED AN EX OFFICIO MEMBER OF ANY STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE  
30 PRESIDING OFFICER'S CHAMBER; OR
- 31 4. A COUNTY OR REGIONAL DELEGATION OF MEMBERS OF  
32 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT IS RECOGNIZED BY A PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE  
33 GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

34 (vii) 1. food, lodging, and scheduled entertainment of officials and  
35 employees for a meeting, if given in return for participation in a panel or speaking  
36 engagement at the meeting; and



4

1 (4) The regulated lobbyist may:

2 (i) declare on the form required under paragraph (3) of this  
3 subsection that a gift of a meal or beverages was given for purposes not related to the  
4 regulated lobbyist's lobbying activities; and

5 (ii) explain the circumstances under which the gift of a meal or  
6 beverages was given.

7 (5) Gifts of meals or beverages reported by a regulated lobbyist under this  
8 subsection need not be counted or reported by the regulated lobbyist for purposes of  
9 disclosure under subsection (b)(4) of this section.

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