
By: **Senators Brochin and Grosfeld**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2005

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Ethics - Lobbyists - Fund-Raising for Relatives of Legislators**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a certain regulated lobbyist from conducting
4 fund-raising activities for the benefit of certain individuals if those individuals
5 are related by blood or marriage to a member of the General Assembly; making
6 certain technical changes; defining a certain term; and generally relating to
7 lobbyists and fund-raising.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - State Government
10 Section 15-714
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2004 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 15-714.

17 (a) (1) In this section[, "candidate"] THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE
18 MEANINGS INDICATED.

19 (2) "CANDIDATE", "contribution", and "political committee" have the
20 meanings provided in § 1-101 of the Election Law Article.

21 (3) "FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES" MEANS:

22 (I) SOLICITING OR TRANSMITTING A POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION
23 FROM ANY PERSON, INCLUDING A POLITICAL COMMITTEE;

24 (II) SERVING ON A FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE OR A POLITICAL
25 COMMITTEE;

1 (III) ACTING AS A TREASURER FOR A CANDIDATE OR OFFICIAL OR
2 AS TREASURER OR CHAIRMAN OF A POLITICAL COMMITTEE;

3 (IV) ORGANIZING OR ESTABLISHING A POLITICAL COMMITTEE FOR
4 THE PURPOSE OF SOLICITING OR TRANSMITTING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ANY
5 PERSON; OR

6 (V) FORWARDING TICKETS FOR FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES, OR
7 OTHER SOLICITATIONS FOR POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS, TO A POTENTIAL
8 CONTRIBUTOR.

9 (b) This section applies only to a regulated lobbyist described in §
10 15-701(a)(1), (2), (3), or (4) of this subtitle.

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

14 (d) (1) [A regulated lobbyist who is subject to this section or a person acting
15 on behalf of the regulated lobbyist may not, for the benefit of the Governor,
16 Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, or member of the General
17 Assembly, or candidate for election to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
18 Attorney General, Comptroller, or member of the General Assembly, engage in the
19 following:

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

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

23 (iii) acting as a treasurer for a candidate or official or as treasurer or
24 chairman of a political committee;

25 (iv) organizing or establishing a political committee for the purpose
26 of soliciting or transmitting contributions from any person; or

27 (v) forwarding tickets for fund-raising activities, or other
28 solicitations for political contributions, to a potential contributor.] A REGULATED
29 LOBBYIST WHO IS SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION OR A PERSON ACTING ON BEHALF OF
30 THE REGULATED LOBBYIST MAY NOT CONDUCT FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES FOR THE
31 BENEFIT OF:

32 (I) THE GOVERNOR;

33 (II) THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR;

34 (III) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL;

35 (IV) THE COMPTROLLER;

36 (V) A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

1 (VI) A CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO AN OFFICE LISTED IN ITEMS
2 (I) THROUGH (V) OF THIS PARAGRAPH; OR

3 (VII) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS RELATED TO A MEMBER OF THE
4 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR A MEMBER'S SPOUSE BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING
5 RELATIONSHIPS:

- 6 1. SPOUSE;
- 7 2. PARENT OR STEPPARENT;
- 8 3. SIBLING OR STEPSIBLING;
- 9 4. CHILD;
- 10 5. GRANDPARENT;
- 11 6. GRANDCHILD;
- 12 7. AUNT;
- 13 8. UNCLE;
- 14 9. NIECE;
- 15 10. NEPHEW; OR
- 16 11. FIRST COUSIN.

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

- 18 (i) making a personal political contribution;
- 19 (ii) informing any entity of a position taken by a candidate or
20 official; or

21 (iii) engaging in other activities not specifically prohibited under
22 paragraph (1) of this subsection.

23 (3) This section does not apply to a regulated lobbyist who is a candidate
24 with respect to the regulated lobbyist's own campaign.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2005.