

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 343 (Senators Brochin and Grosfeld)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ethics - Lobbyists - Fund-Raising for Relatives of Legislators

This bill prohibits a regulated lobbyist under the Public Ethics Law from conducting fund-raising activities for the benefit of an individual who is related to a member of the General Assembly by any of the following relationships: (1) spouse; (2) parent or stepparent; (3) sibling or stepsibling; (4) child; (5) grandparent; (6) grandchild; (7) aunt; (8) uncle; (9) niece; (10) nephew; or (11) first cousin.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The State Ethics Commission could administer the bill with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A regulated lobbyist who is subject the Public Ethics Law or a person acting on behalf of the regulated lobbyist may not, for the benefit of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, or member of the General Assembly, or candidate for election to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, or member of the General Assembly, engage in the following 'fund-raising' activities:

- soliciting or transmitting a political contribution from any person, including a political committee;

- serving on a fund-raising committee or a political committee;
- acting as a treasurer for a candidate or official or as treasurer or chairman of a political committee;
- organizing or establishing a political committee for the purpose of soliciting or transmitting contributions from any person; or
- forwarding tickets for fund-raising activities, or other solicitations for political contributions, to a potential contributor.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): State Ethics Commission, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 1, 2005
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