

HOUSE BILL 59

G2, L6

2lr0307

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Carr**

Requested: July 9, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Ethics – Local Governments – Registration of Lobbyists**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing requirements for model lobbying registration provisions
4 that are adopted by the State Ethics Commission for local governments; requiring
5 lobbying provisions adopted by local governments to be similar to a certain law,
6 rather than substantially similar; and generally relating to the lobbying provisions
7 of local governments.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – General Provisions
10 Section 5–205(b) and 5–810
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – General Provisions
15 Section 5–807(a)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – General Provisions**

21 5–205.

22 (b) (1) The Ethics Commission shall adopt by regulation model provisions for
23 local governments and school boards on:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) conflicts of interest;
- 2 (ii) financial disclosure; and
- 3 (iii) **SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION,**
4 regulation of lobbying.

5 (2) Model provisions adopted under paragraph (1) of this subsection may
6 be:

- 7 (i) adopted by any local jurisdiction or school board; or
- 8 (ii) imposed on a local jurisdiction or school board in accordance with
9 Subtitle 8 of this title.

10 **(3) (I) THE MODEL LOBBYING PROVISIONS ADOPTED BY THE**
11 **ETHICS COMMISSION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR LOCAL**
12 **GOVERNMENTS SHALL REQUIRE AN ENTITY THAT ENGAGES IN LOBBYING**
13 **ACTIVITIES COMPARABLE TO THOSE IDENTIFIED IN § 5-702(A)(1) AND (2) OF THIS**
14 **TITLE TO REGISTER WITH THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE**
15 **LOBBYING PROVISIONS AND BE A REGULATED LOBBYIST UNDER THE LOBBYING**
16 **PROVISIONS.**

17 **(II) THE MODEL LOBBYING PROVISIONS ADOPTED BY THE**
18 **ETHICS COMMISSION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR LOCAL**
19 **GOVERNMENTS MAY REQUIRE AN ENTITY TO REGISTER WITH THE AGENCY**
20 **RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE LOBBYING PROVISIONS AND BE A**
21 **REGULATED LOBBYIST IF THE ENTITY ENGAGES IN OTHER FORMS OF LOBBYING.**

22 5-807.

23 (a) Subject to § 5-209 of this title, each county and each municipal corporation
24 shall enact provisions to govern the public ethics of local officials relating to:

- 25 (1) conflicts of interest;
- 26 (2) financial disclosure; and
- 27 (3) lobbying.

28 5-810.

29 The lobbying provisions enacted by a county or municipal corporation under § 5-807
30 of this subtitle:

1 (1) shall be [substantially] similar to the provisions of Subtitle 7 of this
2 title; but

3 (2) (i) shall be modified to the extent necessary to make the provisions
4 relevant to that jurisdiction; and

5 (ii) may be further modified to the extent considered necessary and
6 appropriate by and for that jurisdiction.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2022.