

Senator Todd Weiler proposes the following substitute bill:

LOBBYIST DISCLOSURE AND REGULATION ACT

AMENDMENTS

2014 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Todd Weiler

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends Title 36, Chapter 11, Lobbyist Disclosure and Regulation Act.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ describes and clarifies the difference between an event, a tour, and a meeting;
- ▶ describes reporting and other requirements relating to an event, a tour and a meeting; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

36-11-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 212

36-11-304, as repealed and reenacted by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 325



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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **36-11-102** is amended to read:

36-11-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Aggregate daily expenditures" means:

(a) for a single lobbyist, principal, or government officer, the total of all expenditures made within a calendar day by the lobbyist, principal, or government officer for the benefit of an individual public official;

(b) for an expenditure made by a member of a lobbyist group, the total of all expenditures made within a calendar day by every member of the lobbyist group for the benefit of an individual public official; or

(c) for a multiclient lobbyist, the total of all expenditures made by the multiclient lobbyist within a calendar day for the benefit of an individual public official, regardless of whether the expenditures were attributed to different clients.

(2) "Approved [~~meeting or~~] activity" means a tour or a meeting [~~or activity~~]:

(a) (i) to which a legislator is invited; and

(ii) attendance at which is approved by:

(A) the speaker of the House of Representatives, if the public official is a member of the House of Representatives; or

(B) the president of the Senate, if the public official is a member of the Senate; or

(b) (i) to which a public official who holds a position in the executive branch of state government is invited; and

(ii) attendance at which is approved by the governor or the lieutenant governor.

(3) (a) "Compensation" means anything of economic value, however designated, that is paid, loaned, granted, given, donated, or transferred to an individual for the provision of services or ownership before any withholding required by federal or state law.

(b) "Compensation" includes:

(i) a salary or commission;

(ii) a bonus;

(iii) a benefit;

- 57 (iv) a contribution to a retirement program or account;
- 58 (v) a payment includable in gross income, as defined in Section 62, Internal Revenue
59 Code, and subject to Social Security deductions, including a payment in excess of the
60 maximum amount subject to deduction under Social Security law;
- 61 (vi) an amount that the individual authorizes to be deducted or reduced for salary
62 deferral or other benefits authorized by federal law; or
- 63 (vii) income based on an individual's ownership interest.
- 64 (4) "Compensation payor" means a person who pays compensation to a public official
65 in the ordinary course of business:
- 66 (a) because of the public official's ownership interest in the compensation payor; or
67 (b) for services rendered by the public official on behalf of the compensation payor.
- 68 (5) "Executive action" means:
- 69 (a) a nomination or appointment by the governor;
70 (b) the proposal, drafting, amendment, enactment, or defeat by a state agency of a rule
71 made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act;
- 72 (c) agency ratemaking proceedings; or
73 (d) an adjudicative proceeding of a state agency.
- 74 (6) "Event" means entertainment, a performance, a contest, or a recreational activity
75 that an individual participates in or is a spectator at, including a sporting event, an artistic
76 event, a play, a movie, dancing, or singing.
- 77 [(6)] (7) (a) "Expenditure" means any of the items listed in this Subsection [(6)] (7)(a)
78 when given to or for the benefit of a public official unless consideration of equal or greater
79 value is received:
- 80 (i) a purchase, payment, or distribution;
- 81 (ii) a loan, gift, or advance;
- 82 (iii) a deposit, subscription, or forbearance;
- 83 (iv) services or goods;
- 84 (v) money;
- 85 (vi) real property;
- 86 (vii) a ticket or admission to [~~a sporting, recreational, or artistic~~] an event; or
- 87 (viii) a contract, promise, or agreement, whether or not legally enforceable, to provide

88 any item listed in Subsections [~~(6)~~] (7)(a)(i) through (vii).

89 (b) "Expenditure" does not mean:

90 (i) a commercially reasonable loan made in the ordinary course of business;

91 (ii) a campaign contribution reported in accordance with Title 20A, Chapter 11,

92 Campaign and Financial Reporting Requirements;

93 (iii) printed informational material that is related to the performance of the recipient's

94 official duties;

95 (iv) a devise or inheritance;

96 (v) any item listed in Subsection [~~(6)~~] (7)(a) if:

97 (A) given by a relative;

98 (B) given by a compensation payor for a purpose solely unrelated to the public

99 official's position as a public official; or

100 (C) (I) the item has a value of less than \$10; and

101 (II) the aggregate daily expenditures do not exceed \$10;

102 (vi) food or beverage that is provided at an event, a tour, or a meeting to which the

103 following are invited:

104 (A) all members of the Legislature;

105 (B) all members of a standing or interim committee;

106 (C) all members of an official legislative task force;

107 (D) all members of a party caucus; or

108 (E) all members of a group described in Subsections [~~(6)~~] (7)(b)(vi)(A) through (D)

109 who are attending a meeting of a national organization whose primary purpose is addressing

110 general legislative policy;

111 (vii) food or beverage that is provided at an event, a tour, or a meeting to a public

112 official who is:

113 (A) giving a speech at the event;

114 (B) participating in a panel discussion at the event; or

115 (C) presenting or receiving an award at the event;

116 (viii) a plaque, commendation, or award presented in public and having a cash value

117 not exceeding \$50;

118 (ix) admission to or attendance at an event, a tour, or a meeting, the primary purpose of

119 which is:

120 (A) to solicit contributions reportable under:

121 (I) Title 20A, Chapter 11, Campaign and Financial Reporting Requirements; or

122 (II) 2 U.S.C. Sec. 434; or

123 (B) charitable solicitation, as defined in Section 13-22-2;

124 (x) travel to, lodging at, food or beverage served at, and admission to an approved
125 ~~[meeting or]~~ activity;

126 (xi) sponsorship of an ~~[official event or official entertainment of]~~ event that is an
127 approved ~~[meeting or]~~ activity;

128 (xii) notwithstanding Subsection ~~[(6)]~~ (7)(a)(vii), admission to or attendance at an
129 event, a tour, or a meeting:

130 (A) that is sponsored by a governmental entity; or

131 (B) that is widely attended and related to a governmental duty of a public official; or

132 (xiii) travel to a widely attended ~~[event]~~ tour or meeting related to a governmental duty
133 of a public official if that travel results in a financial savings to the state.

134 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) (a) "Government officer" means:

135 (i) an individual elected to a position in state or local government, when acting within
136 the government officer's official capacity; or

137 (ii) an individual appointed to or employed in a full-time position by state or local
138 government, when acting within the scope of the individual's employment.

139 (b) "Government officer" does not mean a member of the legislative branch of state
140 government.

141 ~~[(8)]~~ (9) "Immediate family" means:

142 (a) a spouse;

143 (b) a child residing in the household; or

144 (c) an individual claimed as a dependent for tax purposes.

145 ~~[(9)]~~ (10) "Legislative action" means:

146 (a) a bill, resolution, amendment, nomination, veto override, or other matter pending or
147 proposed in either house of the Legislature or its committees or requested by a legislator; and

148 (b) the action of the governor in approving or vetoing legislation.

149 ~~[(10)]~~ (11) "Lobbying" means communicating with a public official for the purpose of

150 influencing the passage, defeat, amendment, or postponement of legislative or executive action.

151 [~~(11)~~] (12) (a) "Lobbyist" means:

152 (i) an individual who is employed by a principal; or

153 (ii) an individual who contracts for economic consideration, other than reimbursement

154 for reasonable travel expenses, with a principal to lobby a public official.

155 (b) "Lobbyist" does not include:

156 (i) a government officer;

157 (ii) a member or employee of the legislative branch of state government;

158 (iii) a person while appearing at, or providing written comments to, a hearing

159 conducted in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act or

160 Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act;

161 (iv) a person participating on or appearing before an advisory or study task force,

162 commission, board, or committee, constituted by the Legislature or any agency or department

163 of state government, except legislative standing, appropriation, or interim committees;

164 (v) a representative of a political party;

165 (vi) an individual representing a bona fide church solely for the purpose of protecting

166 the right to practice the religious doctrines of the church, unless the individual or church makes

167 an expenditure that confers a benefit on a public official;

168 (vii) a newspaper, television station or network, radio station or network, periodical of

169 general circulation, or book publisher for the purpose of publishing news items, editorials,

170 other comments, or paid advertisements that directly or indirectly urge legislative or executive

171 action; or

172 (viii) an individual who appears on the individual's own behalf before a committee of

173 the Legislature or an agency of the executive branch of state government solely for the purpose

174 of testifying in support of or in opposition to legislative or executive action.

175 [~~(12)~~] (13) "Lobbyist group" means two or more lobbyists, principals, government

176 officers, or any combination of lobbyists, principals, and officers who each contribute a portion

177 of an expenditure made to benefit a public official or member of the public official's immediate

178 family.

179 (14) "Meeting" means a gathering of people to discuss an issue, receive instruction, or

180 make a decision, including a conference, seminar, or summit.

181 ~~[(13)]~~ (15) "Multiclient lobbyist" means a single lobbyist, principal, or government
182 officer who represents two or more clients and divides the aggregate daily expenditure made to
183 benefit a public official or member of the public official's immediate family between two or
184 more of those clients.

185 ~~[(14)]~~ (16) "Principal" means a person that employs an individual to perform lobbying,
186 either as an employee or as an independent contractor.

187 ~~[(15)]~~ (17) "Public official" means:

188 (a) (i) a member of the Legislature;

189 (ii) an individual elected to a position in the executive branch of state government; or

190 (iii) an individual appointed to or employed in a position in the executive or legislative
191 branch of state government if that individual:

192 (A) occupies a policymaking position or makes purchasing or contracting decisions;

193 (B) drafts legislation or makes rules;

194 (C) determines rates or fees; or

195 (D) makes adjudicative decisions; or

196 (b) an immediate family member of a person described in Subsection ~~[(15)]~~ (17)(a).

197 ~~[(16)]~~ (18) "Public official type" means a notation to identify whether a public official
198 is:

199 (a) (i) a member of the Legislature;

200 (ii) an individual elected to a position in the executive branch of state government;

201 (iii) an individual appointed to or employed in a position in the legislative branch of
202 state government who meets the definition of public official under Subsection ~~[(15)]~~

203 (17)(a)(iii); or

204 (iv) an individual appointed to or employed in a position in the executive branch of
205 state government who meets the definition of public official under Subsection ~~[(15)]~~

206 (17)(a)(iii); or

207 (b) an immediate family member of a person described in Subsection ~~[(15)]~~ (17)(b).

208 ~~[(17)]~~ (19) "Quarterly reporting period" means the three-month period covered by each
209 financial report required under Subsection [36-11-201\(2\)\(a\)](#).

210 ~~[(18)]~~ (20) "Related person" means a person, agent, or employee who knowingly and
211 intentionally assists a lobbyist, principal, or government officer in lobbying.

212 [(19)] (21) "Relative" means a spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother,
213 sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, first cousin, or
214 spouse of any of these individuals.

215 (22) "Tour" means visiting a location, for a purpose relating to the duties of a public
216 official, and not for entertainment, including:

217 (a) viewing a facility;

218 (b) viewing the sight of a natural disaster; or

219 (c) assessing a circumstance in relation to which a public official may need to take
220 action within the scope of the public official's duties.

221 Section 2. Section **36-11-304** is amended to read:

222 **36-11-304. Expenditures over \$10 prohibited -- Exceptions.**

223 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a lobbyist, principal, or government officer
224 may not make or offer to make aggregate daily expenditures that exceed \$10.

225 (2) A lobbyist, principal, or government officer may make aggregate daily expenditures
226 that exceed \$10:

227 (a) for the following items, if the expenditure is reported in accordance with Section
228 **36-11-201**:

229 (i) food;

230 (ii) beverage;

231 (iii) travel;

232 (iv) lodging; or

233 (v) admission to or attendance at a tour or meeting [~~or activity~~] that is not an approved
234 [~~meeting or~~] activity; or

235 (b) if the expenditure is made for a purpose solely unrelated to the public official's
236 position as a public official.