

**An Examination of Lobbyist Regulations in the  
State of Florida:  
Establishing Accountability, Transparency and Feasibility within the Process**

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## **Executive Summary**

“Mr. Average Citizen goes to the polls and votes for the person to whom he wishes to entrust the business of legislating for him in matters of his life. Mr. A.C. then goes on about his own business and Mr. Legislator goes to the capital city to make the laws. It is left to the lobbyists to follow the elected Mr. Legislator to the legislative halls, watch over his behavior and report to the voter” (Schermerhorn 1938). But who holds the lobbyists accountable for their actions?

In the State of Florida all lobbyists are required to register annually and file semi-annual reports with the Lobbyist Registration Office in the Office of Legislative Services’ Division of Legislative Information Services. However, there are a few legislators who believe that this simply is not enough. During the 2005 Legislative Session, Senate President Tom Lee announced that one of his main legislative priorities this session was to reform the lobbying registration and reporting methods. He repeatedly stated that his goal was to establish accountability and transparency into the lobbyists reporting system. With the help of Senator Sebesta, Senate Bill 2646 was written and presented to the legislature in hopes of instituting a reformed method of lobbyist reporting.

But is Senate Bill 2646 the answer? Perhaps there is another set of regulations that could be adopted which would achieve the goals of Senate Leadership more effectively. Or perhaps, current law should remain the status quo. Herein lies the purpose of this paper, to examine and evaluate current law, SB 2646, and an alternative method, Full Details Model, to lobbyist regulations and disclosure laws.

Throughout the course of this paper three policy options regarding lobbyist disclosure laws are examined, as mentioned above. Each option is evaluated according to its accountability, transparency and feasibility. All three of these criteria are essential when trying to foster a professional political atmosphere in the legislature, one free from fraud and corruption.

After evaluating each policy options using the evaluative criteria, the conclusion will recommend using the Full Details Model in lieu of current law and SB 2646. The Full Details Model requires

lobbyists to report the general subject areas and the legislation that is lobbied on behalf of each principal, itemize expenditure reports, and establishes an electronic filing system for registration and expenditure reporting. In addition, this alternative model provides a greater level of public access to lobbyist expenditures by requiring that the Division of Legislative Information Services produce the following information: overall lobbying spending total by deadline and the spending amounts of each general subject area.

This alternative approach to lobbying regulations will provide a high level of accountability and feasibility as well as establishing transparency into the process. Therefore, it is the final recommendation of this paper to apply the Full Details Model in an effort to reform Florida's lobbying regulation laws.

## **Problem Statement:**

Lobbying is often described as a fourth branch of government casting its shadow upon the legislative and executive branches. Many citizens believe that the lobbyists lurking within the shadows are working against the interests of the public. This misperceived notion of the occupation of a lobbyist has resulted in a profound distrust for the profession as a whole.

Florida Statutes defines the act of lobbying as a mean of “influencing or attempting to influence legislative action or non-action through oral or written communication or an attempt to obtain the goodwill of a member or employee of the legislature” (Fl Statute 11.045(1)(E)). The purpose of lobbying is to provide information to the legislators and executives in government - be it local, state or federal. Lobbyists come in many forms from average citizens to hired professionals working to provide facts and figures to officials in order to better inform them on the various legislation on which they are to vote. There are approximately 2,000 lobbyists registered with the Office of Legislative Services’ Division of Legislative Information Services (the Division) lobbying on behalf of over 2,500 clients. These lobbyists are required to register annually and report expenditures semi-annually to the Division.

In the 2005 Legislative Session the methodologies in which lobbyists are required to report have come under scrutiny. Many legislators believe that the old method of reporting expenditures is archaic and lacking in accountability. Senate President Tom Lee announced early in the session that one of his top legislative priorities this session was to reform the reporting requirements for lobbyists. With the help of Senator Sebesta, Senate Bill 2646 was drafted in an effort to reform the lobbying regulations and enhance transparency and accountability within the lobbying profession.

The purpose of this paper is to examine the requirements of lobbying reports, both current and proposed, as they relate to accountability, transparency and feasibility. A third method of lobbyist reporting will also be examined, Full Details Model, which is primarily based around the current reporting system of California. The primary focus will be placed on the lobbyists reporting methods for the Florida legislative branch.

**Background:**

In the 1970s, Governor Reubin Askew was on a quest to establish ethics within the governmental process, on a local and state level. Also on the Governor's agenda was lobbyist disclosure laws. Initially the Governor wanted to require all lobbyists to disclose their fees. He also hoped to close the revolving door with a provision banning lawmakers from leaving office and immediately returning as lobbyists. However, the Governor was only successful in securing half of his agenda, close the revolving door. Thus, Florida is the largest state in the United States that does not require lobbyist to report their salary or compensation; California, Texas and New York all have clauses requiring such reporting.

On the eve of the 2005 Legislative Session, Senate President Tom Lee publicly stated that he would advocate legislation to require lobbyists to disclose their fees and report their expenditures in greater detail. The Senate President stated that "more 'transparency' is needed because it is impossible to prevent special interests from pouring money into the system" (Morgan 11 February 2005). During this opening session address, the Senate President stated that the lobbying "process is dated and not easily transparent to the public. We have to realize that the public confidence is shaken when that business is cloaked in secrecy" (Ulferts 8 March 2005). Therefore this statement by Senate President Lee propelled lobbyist disclosure laws into the lime light of session and making it a policy problem overnight.

The St. Petersburg Times reported that during 2004, lobbyists spent approximately \$3.5 million on behalf of 1,700 clients (Morgan 23 Feb 2005). However, this amount is significantly lower than the \$7.9 million spent by lobbyists in the preceding year. Still, Senator Lee openly criticized the effort by lobbyists to gain influence through free lunches, dinners and campaign contributions. In fact, he banned a long standing tradition of free lunches provided to Senate Committee staff members by lobbyists.

Former Senate President John McKay stated that "the lobbying corps will always be there because they're more concerned with what you can do *to* them than what you can do *for* them" (Kam 1 March 2005). The lobbyists were definitely concerned with the legislation Senator Lee

and Senator Sebesta, SB 2646, proposed during the 2005 Legislative Session. However, after 60 days and several strike-all amendments, the bill failed to pass the House of Representatives.

However, the question has been raised, are Florida's lobbyist laws archaic? Do these laws need to be reformed? These questions will more than likely reappear during the next legislative session. Whatever the case, it is safe to say that this policy problem will continue to search for answers until the problem is resolved.

### **Literature Review:**

According to the first amendment of the United States Constitution all citizens have the right "to petition the Government." Even James Madison acknowledges in the Federalist Papers that people organize themselves into groups in order to promote their general interest (Kramnick 1987). Over the course of U.S. History, people have joined together to lobby the government on their behalf. It has been said that "American politics is inconceivable without interest groups and interest groups are inconceivable without lobbying" (Eulau 1964).

In 1938 Gertrude Schermerhorn wrote an article detailing her experiences as a lobbyist while trying to pass legislation relating to child labor laws. She stated that the longer she worked the legislative halls the more she was convinced that lobbyists are needed "not so much for a single victory through a particular bill but for the whole democratic process" (1938). Schermerhorn is not the only one who shares this viewpoint of lobbyists being essential to the legislative process. Robert Dvorchak once said that a "legislative process without lobbyists is like having a road map with only interstate highways. The Lobbyists are the access ramps, back roads, short cuts, cutoffs and detours" (Rosenthal 2001). However, perhaps it is the back roads and short cuts which the lobbyists take that garner the mistrust of the voters.

Similar to any other profession, lobbyists must adhere to rules and regulations not only within their own entities but within the government as well; these regulations prevent fraud and help establish accountability. According to Cynthia Opheim, regulations that are placed on lobbyists help the legislature establish their independence of undue influence and to guarantee that

lobbyists operate out in the open, where the press and public can see (1991). As legislatures struggled to rid government of the stigma of corruption and fraud generated by bribes and back room deals, lobbying regulations became increasingly popular. Over half of the states in the 1960s and 1970s introduced lobby registration and reporting requirements, including Florida.

Florida Statute 11.044 declares that the legislature finds that the “preservation of the integrity of the governmental decision making process is essential to the continued function of an open government.” The Legislature found it necessary to require the disclosure of expenditures and activities of those who are attempting to influence the passage of legislation. The desire to create a more open government, free from fraud and one that holds people accountable for their actions, gave rise to the Sunshine Amendment and to lobbying disclosure laws.

In an effort to amend the Florida Constitution, Governor Reubin Askew fully backed this amendment which established ethics in the government. The amendment was adopted in 1976. The Sunshine Amendment includes a clause that “no member of the legislature or statewide elected officer shall personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the government body or agency for a period of two years following vacation of office” (s. 8(e), Art. II). This section of the Constitution was written in an effort to prevent undue influences upon those still serving in office by those who no longer serve. The Florida lobbying disclosure laws were not modified until the late 1980s and early 1990s, when small changes were made to the definition of lobbyists and registration requirements.

By enacting lobbying disclosure laws, including the Sunshine clause, the Florida Legislature took immense steps in reducing opportunities for fraud and establishing a more professional atmosphere within the legislature. Cynthia Opheim states that full-time professional legislatures tend to be less dependent on lobbyists for information and the legislature is more apt to adopt stringent regulations on the profession (1991). However, the state of Florida does not operate as a full-time legislature. Thus, Florida’s laws are not as rigorous as other states, namely New York, California and Texas.

Several articles regarding lobbying disclosure laws were written during the 1940s and 1950s. These articles primarily addressed the need for stronger lobbying laws in order to curb the fraud and corruption in the ‘good ole boy’ network. According to Adam J. Newmark, “lobbying laws are designed to curtail the flagrant bribery and vote buying characteristic of the good ole boy style of lobbying” (2003). In addition, other articles merely rank the effectiveness of lobbying laws within the states, namely Cynthia Opheim’s article on *Explaining the Differences in State Lobby Regulation*. However, her article was written prior to the modifications made on Florida’s lobbying laws. The following study conducted by the Center of Public Integrity (the Center), a Washington D.C. ethics group, is an updated and comprehensive examination of state lobbying laws.

In a recent study by the Center, Florida ranked 33<sup>rd</sup> among the 50 states in its regulations of lobbyists. Florida tied with Louisiana and Oregon but lagged behind New York, California and Texas. The Center’s study focused on professional lobbyists as opposed to grass roots organizations.

It was discovered that in 26 states, legislatures designate an ethics commission or some other independent body to oversee legislative lobbying. Another leaves this responsibility to the secretary of state and six states, including Florida, let the legislature regulate lobbyists (with the exception of those lobbying for the executive branch). Ten states provide online registration and 14 provide for disclosure reporting online. Florida only provides access to the registration documents and expenditure reports through a PDF file online. As far as the issue of compensation, 32 states do not require individual lobbyists to report fees and 29 do not require employers of lobbyists to report fees (Morlino 2005).

The strongest aspects of Florida’s lobbyist laws are the definition of lobbyists and the revolving door provision. The definition of lobbyists includes executive lobbyists and requires all to register no matter their compensation or salary. Unlike several states, Florida has a revolving door policy which was instituted by a 1976 constitutional amendment.



However, Florida's lobbyist disclosure weaknesses far out number its strong points, according to the Center. Lack of an electronic filing system, lack of compensation reporting and a lax in expenditure reporting are all contributing factors to Florida's poor ranking in the Center's study. The faults in expenditure reporting, according the Center are due to a lack of itemized expenditures (including dates and descriptions) and lacks a description of legislation address by the lobbyist. The following is a list of loopholes in Florida lobbying regulations identified by the Center:

- not required to submit photo with registration
- not required to identify additional information about type of lobbying work
- not required to report compensation/salary on spending reports
- not required to itemize spending
- not required to list bill numbers or subject matter addressed on spending report
- not required to report spending on household members
- lack of electronic registration
- lack of electronic spending report filing
- Division does not provide overall total of lobby spending by industries lobbyists represent

Ranking 8<sup>th</sup> in the Center's study was the state of California. Currently, California requires all lobbyists, making over \$2,000 a month, to register, quarterly report their compensation and expenditures (including itemize detailing). In addition, California has an electronic filing system and a revolving door policy.

The following two sections describe the lobbying disclosure laws for the State of Florida and California.

### **Florida:**

In 1978 the forerunner of the current legislative lobbying reporting system was adopted. This legislation required all those wishing to lobby before the Legislature to register and file semi-annual reports. Since then some practices have been refined, expanded or eliminated. For instance, the requirement that lobbyists' registration include the general and specific areas of legislative interest has been modified to require only a general description of interest.

Another modification in Florida's lobbying laws occurred in 1993 and affected the definition of a lobbyist. The term was modified from "all persons, except legislators and authorized staff, who seek directly or indirectly to encourage passage, defeat or modification of any legislation" to "a person who is *employed and receives payment or who contracts for economic considerations* for the purposes of lobbying" (Brasher 1999). This definition further classified lobbyists from all persons to only those receiving compensation for their services. However, unlike other states, Florida has never required lobbyists to report compensation (salaries, fees, and reimbursements).

#### *Registration:*

In November of 1993, another change occurred to the lobbying reporting system. All legislative lobbyists are now required to register annually with the Lobbyist Registration Office in the Office of Legislative Services' Division of Legislative Information Services (the Division). Previously, lobbyists were only required to register biennially, typically reflecting the election cycle (Brasher 1999). In addition, the registration fee was lowered to \$60 per lobbyist. Today, lobbyists are required to pay an initial fee of \$50 for the first principal<sup>1</sup> and \$20 for each additional principal.

Registration forms<sup>2</sup> and fees are submitted to the Division on paper. Currently there is not an electronic filing system for registration. However, the forms are available online in a PDF format. All registration must be submitted in writing showing proper authorization of representation by the principal. It is mandatory for lobbyists to register their representation of each principal separately. Each registration includes a general description of the area of legislative interest on behalf of the principal.

The following table depicts the number of lobbyists and their principals for the past three years<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Principal means the person, firm, corporation or other entity which has employed or retained a lobbyist (FL Statutes 11.045 (1)(g))

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix 1 for Florida Lobbyist Registration Form

<sup>3</sup> Retrieved from the Florida Lobbyist Registration Office

<b>Years</b>	<b>Number of Lobbyists</b>	<b>Number of Principals Represented</b>
2003	2,029	2,757
2004	2,041	2,845
2005	2,029	2,857

*Semi-annual Reporting:*

Legislative lobbyists are mandated to file semi-annual expenditure reports<sup>4</sup> for each principal in which they registered to represent. These reports are then submitted to the Division. Currently there is not an electronic filing system for expenditure reports. Once again, the forms are available online in a PDF format and must be submitted in writing to the Division. There are two reporting periods and each report is due no later than 45 days after the reporting period ends. The following are the two reporting periods:

- January 1 through June 30 (due no later than August 14)
- July 1 through December 31 (due no later than February 14)

These reports must detail expenditures incurred directly by the client. Expenditure is defined as “a payment, distribution, loan, advance reimbursement, deposit or anything of value made by the lobbyists or principal for the purpose of lobbying” (Fl Statute 11.045 (1)(c)). Expenditures do not include the lobbyist’s or principal’s salary, office expenses, lodging, meals or travel.

Each expenditure report must include the lobbyist’s name, principal represented, lobbying expenditures for the reporting period, source of funds, and category of expense. The categories of expenditures include food and beverage, entertainment, research, communication, media advertising, publications, travel, lodging, special events and other. Dollar amounts for each category must be calculated and included in the report. All expenditures reports must be signed and certified. In addition, according to Florida law, all records must be preserved for at least four years. This includes all accounts, bills, receipts, computer records, books, papers and other such documents.

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<sup>4</sup> See Appendix 2 for Florida Lobbyist Expenditure Report

## **California:**

California Fair Political Practices Commission administers its legislative lobbying registration and reporting system. This commission removes lobbying regulation from the hands of the legislative branch, unlike Florida where the Division is part of the legislative branch.

The state of California defines a lobbyist as “an individual who is compensated and who communicates directly with legislative or state agency officials to influence legislative or administrative action on behalf of his or her employer or a client” (<http://www.fppc.ca.gov>). This definition is similar to Florida’s. The only difference between the two is the fact that California emphasizes that a lobbyist acts on behalf of someone; Florida’s definition does not include any such language.

### *Registration:*

California requires each lobbying firm and lobbyist’s employer, with the exception of contract lobbyists making under \$2,000 a month, to register biennially with the Secretary of State. These forms are available online and must be mailed to the Secretary of State. The registration fees are \$25 per lobbyist. Similar to Florida, California lobbyists and principal’s must submit a form authorizing lobbying activity.

The following is a list of information that must be provided by the lobbyist and the principal upon registration with the California Secretary of the State<sup>5</sup>:

- a list of all employed lobbyists – principal only
- lobbying contracts effective dates
- description of lobbying interest (i.e. the type of legislation – environmental, tax)
- description of principal interest (i.e. the type of business it engages in)

### *Expenditure Reports:*

The most drastic difference between Florida and California lies within the requirements of their expenditure reports<sup>6</sup>. Florida requires that these forms only be submitted twice a year to the Division, however California’s lobbyist are required to submit the forms on a quarterly basis. In

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<sup>5</sup> See Appendix 3 for California Lobbyist Registration Form

<sup>6</sup> See Appendix 4 for California Lobbyist Expenditure Report

addition, the lobbyist must disclose the monetary amount of compensation that is received for their services. The reporting periods are as follows:

- January, February and March (due April 30)
- April, May and June (due July 31)
- July, August and September (due October 31)
- October, November and December (due January 31)

California lobbyists are required to quarterly report all of the following for each principal: gross payments, fees and retainers, reimbursements, advancements, payments and a description of the legislation lobbied or the appropriate bill numbers. These forms must be submitted both electronically and on paper.

It should be mentioned, that California and Florida's legislative session are vastly different from each other. This explains some of the differences in California's registration and reporting systems. Florida's legislative session occur every year and begins on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March. The session lasts for 60 days. This explains the annual registration process and the semi-annual reporting system; annual sessions and expenditure reports that cover session in the spring and committee meetings in the fall.

The California legislature engages in a single two year session, which is closely modeled after the U.S. Congressional sessions. Therefore, it is not surprising to discover that lobbyists and principals are required to register biennially and file quarterly reports; registering once every two years keeping concurrent with the sessions and filing expenditures every three months in order to hold lobbyists and principals accountable during a year round session.

### **Methodologies:**

While Florida requires both lobbyists of the legislative and executive branch to file registration and expenditure forms, this report focuses primarily on legislative lobbyists. These are the lobbyists which are most visible to the public, even though some lobbyists may work to influence both branches of government.

The supporting data was gathered from current Florida and California statutes, proposed legislation and bill analysis, as well the Center's study on lobbyist disclosure laws. In addition, scholarly literature contributed to the need to have effective disclosure laws that hold lobbyists accountable for their actions and discourage fraud. Various articles from the St. Pete Times demonstrate the current need for lobbyist regulation reform within Florida government.

### *Evaluative Criteria*

In order to evaluate the policy options for lobbyist disclosure, three criteria were used: accountability, transparency and feasibility.

Accountability is one of the key purposes behind lobbyist disclosure laws. In an effort to curb fraud and create a means to justify expenses, these laws were instituted in the 1970s. Specifically, the registration and expenditure reports will be examined for their ability to explain the expenses of the lobbyists. Areas of legislative interests, describing and itemizing expenditures will also be examined in order to evaluate the policy option's ability to hold lobbyists accountable.

The criterion of transparency is derived from Senate President's Lee desire to instill it in the lobbyist reform effort. This criterion seeks to reveal the relationship between legislators, lobbyists and their principals. Many believe that the best proposed method of transparency is to require lobbyists to report their fees as part of the expenditure reports. Or perhaps, it is as simple as allowing the public to have better access to the data. This may or may not be necessary in the effort to institute transparency in the system.

While evaluating the options it is important to discuss the feasibility of each one. The various factors that will be examined are the filing system of reports, the timeliness and the congruency of the system. It is essential to establish capability of each of the systems. For instance what may work efficiently in one state may or may not work for another. Therefore it is vital that the feasibility of the policy options be taken into consideration before they are implemented into practice.

**Policy Options:***Option 1: The Current System*

One selection that is always available is the option of the status quo. Throughout this section, current Florida law will be evaluated using the defined criteria of accountability, transparency and feasibility.

**Accountability:**

The annual registration requirements oblige the lobbyists to reregister every year with the Division. Lobbyists are required to submit a list of principals and written authorization for their representation. This requisite prevents a principal from being misrepresented before the legislature and publicizes all principals represented by lobbyists' for that year.

Under current law, lobbyists are required to submit expenditure reports listing in categories the money spent during the reporting period. However, lobbyists do not have to itemize expenditures or list the legislation or subject matter that was lobbied on behalf of the principal. In addition, principals are only required to sign off on the expenditure report and not submit a report themselves. Therefore, current Florida law scores moderate among the criterion of accountability.

**Transparency:**

Lobbyists are not required to report their compensation or salary according to Florida's current lobbyist regulations. According to Senate President Lee, reporting of compensation and salaries is fundamental to establishing transparency within the lobbyists disclosure laws. However, it is important to bear in mind that lobbyists are private sector employees hired by, mostly, private sector companies.

Public access to lobbying reports is also inefficient. A lobbyist directory is available through the Division website both online and in a PDF format. The public is able to search the directory by the individual lobbyists and by principal. However, the Division only provides an overall

lobbying spending total by year and not by reporting period. In addition, the public is unable to search expenditure spending by general subject. By not providing the public with this information, the Division does not allow for adequate transparency among lobbying expenditures. Therefore, current Florida law ranks low in the criterion indicator of transparency.

#### Feasibility:

In today's highly technical world, electronic reporting systems are often viewed as essential. It would allow the Division to create a database in which expenditure reporting could be sorted in various categories relating to subject matter. The ability to electronically submit registration and reports is very important to the feasibility of lobbying disclosure. Unfortunately, current Florida law does not provide lobbyists with this option.

Semi-annual expense reporting allows the reports to remain congruent with the legislative session, while at the same time not over burdening the Division with unnecessary paperwork. With the exception of association retreats and campaigning, the summer months are relatively uneventful for Florida lobbyists. According to Florida law, all registered lobbyists are required to submit an expense report regardless if they have spent any money or not. Quarterly reporting is incompatible with the schedule of the legislature. Due to the lack of electronic reporting and semi-annual expenditure reporting, current Florida law is a moderate indicator of feasibility.

#### *Option 2: Senate Bill 2646*

Senate Bill 2646 was drafted by Senator Sebesta in effort to address one of Senator Lee's top legislative priorities during the 2005 Legislative Session. The bill went through several revisions before it was passed in the Senate and sent to the House of Representatives. The bill died in messages during the final day of the legislative session. Throughout this policy evaluation, the engrossed version (final version) is assessed.



#### Accountability:

SB 2646 remains consistent with current Florida law, as far as annual registration is concerned. However, the senate bill does require lobbyists to disclose the main source of business for its principals.

Expenditure reporting in the proposed senate bill involves far more detail than current law. Under the SB 2646, lobbyists are required not only to report expenditures in an itemized detail but also the date, the name and address of each person and the name of the legislator for whom the expenditure was made. In addition, lobbyists must list the general interest and description of all specific issues lobbied on behalf of the principals. These stringent requirements are a high indicator of accountability established in SB 2646.

#### Transparency:

In accordance with Senator Lee, compensation and salaries are required to be reported in all expenditure reports submitted to the Division. Lobbyists must not only report their income for that period but also the year to date compensation owed. As mentioned before, disclosing compensation of lobbyists does not guarantee a clearer insight into the process. This is achieved through public access to the information provided by the lobbyists. The following list contains the categories in which lobbyists must file their compensation:

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$249,999
- \$250,000 to \$499,999
- \$500,000 to \$999,999
- \$1 million+

Public access is not addressed in SB 2646. However, the bill does require lobbyists to list legislation lobbied and provide for electronic filing system. For the sake of evaluating public access, it remains mirrored with current Florida law. Therefore, SB 2646 is a moderate indicator of transparency within lobbyist disclosure laws.

### Feasibility:

Proposed SB 2646 does provide for an electronic filing system that is easily accessible through the internet. This system is used to electronically record compensation and expenditures. According to the bill, the filing system access must be based by means of internet, accessible with standard web-browsing software, direct entry of reports, provide security, and issue electronic receipt once reports are submitted. This electronic filing system increases feasibility over the current law.

SB 2646 proposes an initiation of quarterly expenditure reports. Similar to current law, the expenditures are due 45 days after the end of reporting period. The reporting periods are as follows:

- January 1 through March 31 (due May 15)
- April 1 through June 30 (due August 14)
- July 1 through September 30 (due November 14)
- October 1 through December 31 (due February 14)

However, the filing of quarterly reports is not congruent with Florida's legislative session. Session is a 60 day period in which lobbyists tend to accumulate the majority of their expenses. By instituting a quarterly reporting period, expenditures will be askew between the beginning and the end of session. Perhaps quarterly reporting is more feasible for those legislatures who meet year around. Therefore, SB 2646 is a moderate indicator of feasibility for lobbyist disclosure laws.

### *Option 3: Full Details Model*

Full Details Model is an alternative method to the current lobbying regulations and the proposed regulations provided by SB 2646. This method combines current Florida law with that of California. A few of these recommendations were also proposed by the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections during in Interim Report 2005-130. In addition, Full Details Model attempts to close the loopholes identified by the Center's study on lobbying regulations.

#### Accountability:

Annual registration will remain in place according with current Florida law. However instead of merely disclosing the client represented and the authorization forms, all lobbyists will be required to list the primary business of their principals and submit a photo with their registration.

In addition, each expenditure report requires the expenses must be classified by categorical types. The lobbyists will also be required to provide an itemized list of expenditures and the name of the principal on whose behalf the expenditure was made. Furthermore, lobbyists must identify the specific legislation or subject matter that is to be lobbied on behalf of the principal. The principal will also be required to submit a similar report regarding expenditure spending and the lobbied legislation. Therefore, instilling a higher level of accountability within the system; not only will the lobbyist be required to submit reports but the principals as well. Now, the public will have the ability to cross reference the spending habits of lobbyists and principals. Therefore, Full Details Model is a high indicator of accountability.

#### Transparency:

Lobbyists will not be required to report their compensation to the Division. Lobbyists are hired professionals working in the private sector, many of whom are attorneys. It is unnecessary for these professionals to disclosure their income in an effort to curb fraud and provide the public with a sense of transparency. The issue at stake is not how much the lobbyists get paid but how much money is devoted to the direct lobbying of the legislature. This information does not benefit or harm anyone within the process and is not essential for expenditure or lobbying regulations.

Public access is another component of the transparency criterion. Full Details Model will require the division to provide an overall lobbying spending total by deadlines as opposed to the year in total. In addition, the Division will also be required to disclose the spending amount of each general subject area (i.e. Criminal/Criminal Justice, Ethics/Elections, and Natural Resources). This requirement will allow the public to visualize the areas that are intensely lobbied. The information provided by Division in this format will aid in establishing a higher level of

transparency that does not exist under current law. Therefore, Full Details Model is a moderate indicator of transparency.

**Feasibility:**

Full Details Model will also provide electronic filing for registration and expenditure reports; however the originals will also have to be submitted to the Division. In order to ensure proper usage of the system, the Division will host a training session for those lobbyists using the electronic filing system. By submitting the information electronically, it will allow for a database to be developed in order to track which subject areas are lobbied the most and the cost of lobbying for that subject.

Due to the schedule of the Florida legislative session and committee meetings, the reporting periods for expenditures will remain semi-annual. However, the period in which the reports are considered 'due' will be decreased from 45 days to 30 days. The following are the two reporting periods and the deadlines:

- January 1 through June 30 (due no later than July 30)
- July 1 through December 31 (due no later than January 30)

As mentioned in Option 1, semi-annual expense reporting allows the reports to remain congruent with the legislative session, while at the same not over burdening the Division with unnecessary paperwork. According to Florida law, all registered lobbyists are required to submit an expense report regardless if they spend any money or not. Quarterly reporting is incompatible with the schedule of the legislature. Therefore, Full Details Model is a high indicator of feasibility.

**Conclusion:**

After examining all three policy options concerning lobbyist disclosure laws and evaluating each one according to the criteria, the matrix below becomes evident:

	<b>Attributes</b>		
<b>Policy Options</b>	<i>Accountability</i>	<i>Transparency</i>	<i>Feasibility</i>
Current Law	Moderate	Low	Moderate
Proposed SB 2646	High	Moderate	Moderate
Full Details Model	High	Moderate	High

The alternative method to the current and proposed law becomes the obvious choice regarding lobbying regulations. Although this method does not require lobbyists to disclose their compensation or salary, it establishes a greater public access and ability for the public to see what general subject areas lobbyists and their principals spend the majority of their money. As previously stated, it is important to know where the money is spent as oppose to how much the lobbyists are paid.

In consistent with Senate Bill 2646, Full Details Model also requires lobbyists to report the general subject areas and the legislation that is lobbied, itemize expenditure reports, and establishes an electronic filing system for registration and expenditure reporting. Overall, Full Details Model instills high levels of accountability and feasibility, while at the same time it establishes a moderate level of transparency within lobbying disclosure laws as oppose to the current law.

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## Lobbyist Registration before the Florida Legislature

All lobbyists before the Florida Legislature must register annually with the Lobbyist Registration Office on forms furnished by the Office.

A completed lobbyist registration form, a statement signed by the principal or principal's representative authorizing the lobbyist to represent the principal before the Legislature, and the annual fee (or letter of fee exemption for authorized employees of the executive and judicial branches) are required to register as a lobbyist. A separate registration and authorization must be submitted for each principal represented.

A registration form and authorization form follow. Please be advised that a registration is not effective until all of the required items have been received in good order. Do not lobby until your registration is effective.

The first lobbyist who registers to represent a principal is the "designated lobbyist" for that principal. However, the principal may change its designated lobbyist at any time in writing on forms furnished by the office. The designated lobbyist is responsible for reporting expenses made directly by the principal on the expenditure report.

Lobbyists are required by law to file semi-annual expenditure reports on February 14<sup>th</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup>. Fines are up to \$5,000 for each late report. Lobbyists are required to maintain a current mailing address at all times with the Lobbyist Registration Office. Lobbyists who no longer represent a principal must promptly cancel their registration for that principal. Following these requirements will prevent late expenditure reporting fines.

A guide is available which contains frequently asked questions about registration and expenditure reporting and the applicable law and rules. Lobbyists are urged to read sections 11.044 - 11.062, Florida Statutes, and Joint Rule 1 prior to registration.

If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

# LOBBYIST REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE CALENDAR YEAR 2005

**File completed registration form, authorization form, and fee prior to lobbying. Filing instructions on reverse side.**

**(6) Principal Represented.** State *one* principal per form:

---

**(7) Principal's Business Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

***Complete this section only if applicable:***

**State the name and the extent of any direct business association or partnership you have with any member of the Legislature:**

---

---

**If this is *not* a “joint” Senate and House registration, check one and pay the fee accordingly: Senate [     ]     or     House [     ]**

***Complete this section only if applicable:***

**State the name and the extent of any direct business association or partnership you have with any member of the Legislature:**

---

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**If this is *not* a “joint” Senate and House registration, check one and pay the fee accordingly: Senate [     ]     or     House [     ]**

***Complete this section only if applicable:***

**State the name and the extent of any direct business association or partnership you have with any member of the Legislature:**

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**If this is *not* a “joint” Senate and House registration, check one and pay the fee accordingly: Senate [     ]     or     House [     ]**

**ORIGINAL Signature of Lobbyist**

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2005, by \_\_\_\_\_

Personally Known \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledged by \_\_\_\_\_ (For use only when registering in person before Lobbyist Registration Office staff.)



# Authorization to Represent the Principal before the Florida Legislature

At the time of registration, a lobbyist must provide a statement signed by the principal or principal's representative that the lobbyist is authorized to represent that principal. Submit this *completed* authorization form with the registration form and fee.

Type or print clearly the principal represented and the lobbyist's name as they are stated on the registration form. If the names on the authorization form are different from the names on the registration form, the forms will be returned.

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorizes \_\_\_\_\_  
(Principal represented) (Lobbyist's name)

to represent the Principal before the **Florida Legislature**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature of Principal or Principal's Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**ATTACH TO YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AND FEE**

**A guide is provided to each registrant. Prior to registration, read sections 11.044 - 11.062, F. S. and Joint Rule One.**

- Lobbyists must register annually prior to lobbying the Florida Legislature. Registrations are not effective until all of the required items have been received in good order.
- A separate Registration form is required to register for each principal represented. (A principal is the firm, corporation or other entity that has employed or retained a lobbyist.) Registration information must be stated under oath.
- A separate authorization form signed by the principal giving the lobbyist permission to represent the principal must be filed with each Registration form.
- The first lobbyist who registers is automatically the “designated lobbyist” for that principal. Principals may change the designated lobbyist at any time in writing.
- Each lobbyist must pay an annual \$50 registration fee for the *first* registration filed. Each additional registration for that lobbyist is only \$20. Make checks payable to the Florida Legislature. The registration fee must be submitted with the Registration and Authorization forms.
- State employees must submit a SAMAS voucher schedule with the Registration and Authorization forms if the fee is being paid by Journal Transfer. Forms filed without a SAMAS voucher schedule will be returned. Purchase orders are *not* accepted. Use the following benefiting codes to pay by JT: BF Org—11323255000; BF EO—11; BF Obj—001055; BF Cat—000100.
- Two employees of specified state agencies and the Judicial Branch are exempt from the registration fee, provided a fee exemption letter is submitted with the forms. The letter must be signed by the agency head. Forms filed without fee exemption letter will be returned. Refer to Joint Rule 1.3(2) for the fee exemptions.
- If applicable, state the name and the extent of any direct business association or partnership the lobbyist has with any member of the Legislature. If the lobbyist is *not* registering jointly for both the Senate and the House, then check the applicable chamber. The fee is \$25 per each house for a lobbyist’s first registration and \$10 for each additional registration for that lobbyist. Leave blank if not applicable.
- Registrations terminate on December 31, 2005, unless canceled by the lobbyist or principal.

**IMPORTANT:**

**Lobbyists are required to maintain a current mailing address at all times with the Lobbyist Registration Office. Lobbyists who no longer represent a principal must promptly cancel their registration for that principal. Contact the office for the required forms.**

**Lobbyists are required by law to file semi-annual expenditure reports on February 14th and August 14th. Mark your calendars now. You may be fined up to \$5,000 for each late report.**

**Mail forms and fee to**

**Lobbyist Registration Office, 111 W. Madison St. Rm. G-68, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1425 (850) 922-4990**

# Lobbyist's Expenditure Report for the Florida Legislature

For the reporting period January 1 - June 30, 2005. Filing deadline: August 14, 2005

Read filing instructions on reverse side of form.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
**Lobbyist's Name** (as stated on your registration form)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
**Principal Represented** (as stated on your registration form)

(3) [     ] Check here if there are no expenditures.

(4) **Disclose any lobbying expenditures below:**

SOURCE OF FUNDS	CATEGORIES									
	(1) Food & Beverage	(2) Entertainment	(3) Research	(4) Communication	(5) Media Advertising	(6) Publications	(7) Travel	(8) Lodging	(9) Special Events	(10) Other
(A) Made directly by the lobbyist	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
(B) Made directly by the principal	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
(C) Initiated or expended by the lobbyist and paid for by the principal	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
(D) Initiated or expended by the principal and paid for by the lobbyist	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

I certify the figures reported on this statement other than the expenditures made directly by the principal are accurate:

I certify the figures reported on this statement as lobbying expenditures made directly by the principal are accurate:

(5) \_\_\_\_\_  
**ORIGINAL signature of lobbyist**

(6) \_\_\_\_\_  
**ORIGINAL signature of principal**

### Instructions for filing Lobbyist's Expenditure Report

**Section 11.045(3)(f)(1), Florida Statutes, imposes a fine of \$50 per day per report for each day that a report is late.**

**Incomplete reports will not be considered filed and will be subject to the fine.**

- (1) Type or print clearly the **lobbyist's name** as it is stated on the lobbyist's registration form.
  - (2) Type or print clearly the **principal represented** as it is stated on the lobbyist's registration form. (One principal per report.)
  - (3) Check the box if there are **no expenditures** to report.
  - (4) Disclose any **lobbying expenditures** that were made according to the source of funds and the category in the spaces provided.
    - Only the **designated lobbyist** reports expenditures made directly by the principal (Source of Funds B).
    - All expenditures must be reported on an accrual accounting basis (the method of accounting that recognizes expenses during the period in which they are incurred regardless of when they are actually paid.)
- The following are **not expenditures** and should not be reported: A lobbyist's or principal's salary, office expenses, and personal expenses for lodging, meals, and travel; campaign contributions.
- (5) Sign the report. The **lobbyist's original signature** is required.
  - (6) The **principal's original signature** is required if the person filing the report is the "designated lobbyist." The lobbyist cannot sign the report as the principal's representative.

**The reporting form may be duplicated, but lobbyist and principal signatures must be original.**

An expenditure report that is **complete** will be considered filed timely if it is filed no later than 5 p.m. or postmarked no later than midnight of the due date. A certificate of mailing obtained from and dated by the U.S. Postal Service at the time of mailing or a receipt from an established courier company which bears a date on or before the due date will be proof of mailing in a timely manner.

**Lobbyist Registration Office 111 W. Madison St., Rm. G-68, Tallahassee FL 32399-1425 (850) 922-4990**

# Lobbying Firm Registration Statement

## The “Lobbying Firm Registration Statement” is used for:

- Initial registration of a lobbying firm (including an individual contract lobbyist).
- Renewal of registration.

## Initial Registration of a Lobbying Firm:

Any business entity, including an individual contract lobbyist, must register with the Secretary of State within 10 days of qualifying as a lobbying firm.

To determine if an entity qualifies as a lobbying firm refer to Gov. Code Section 82038.5, 2 Cal. Code of Regulations Section 18238.5. Information is also available in the *Lobbying Disclosure Information Manual* published by the Fair Political Practices Commission.

## Renewal of Registration:

Every lobbying firm must renew its registration for each regular session of the State Legislature. Renewal of registration is due between November 1 and December 31 of each even-numbered year.

## Registration Requirements:

Attach to the “Lobbying Firm Registration Statement” the following:

- A Form 604 (Lobbyist Certification Statement) completed by each owner, partner, officer, or employee of your lobbying firm who qualifies as a lobbyist;
- A recent photograph (head and shoulders only) of each lobbyist;
- Payment of a \$25 registration fee payable to the Secretary of State for each lobbyist; and
- A Form 602 (Lobbying Firm Activity Authorization) completed by each lobbyist employer or lobbying coalition with which your firm contracts.

NOTE: It is not necessary to attach a Form 604 (Lobbyist Certification Statement) or a registration fee for any lobbyist who is separately registered as a lobbying firm or who is employed by a lobbying firm with which your firm subcontracts.

## Registration of Subcontract Clients:

A lobbying firm that contracts to lobby for a client of another lobbying firm must identify both the subcontracting lobbying firm and the client. Use Part II, Section B to report such arrangements. Attach a Form 602 (Lobbying Firm Activity Authorization) completed and signed by a representative of the subcontracting lobbying firm.

## Amendment of Lobbying Firm Registration Statement:

If any change occurs in the information contained in the “Lobbying Firm Registration Statement” a Form 605 (Amendment to Registration) must be filed:

- **Prior to attempting to influence legislative or administrative action on behalf of a client** when adding a new client; or
- Within 20 days of any other change. (e.g. dropping a client, adding a lobbyist etc.)

File an original and one copy of this form and attachments with:

Secretary of State  
Political Reform Division  
1500 11th Street  
P.O. Box 1467  
Sacramento, CA 95812-1467

## Additional Information

Refer to the *Lobbying Disclosure Information Manual* for additional information and information required to be provided to you pursuant to the Information Practices Act of 1977.

# Lobbying Firm Registration Statement

(Government Code Section 86104)

Legislative Session

(Insert Years)

Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

**CALIFORNIA**  
**FORM 601**

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMM.

For Official Use Only

Type or Print in Ink

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

NAME OF LOBBYING FIRM:

If this is an initial registration, enter the  
DATE QUALIFIED as a Lobbying Firm:

BUSINESS ADDRESS: (Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

( )

FAX NUMBER: (Optional)

( )

MAILING ADDRESS: (If different than above.)

E-MAIL: (Optional)

## I Individual Lobbyists

- List the full name of each partner, owner, officer, or employee of your lobbying firm who is a lobbyist. Attach a Form 604 for each lobbyist.
- Do not list any individual who is separately registered as a lobbying firm or who is employed by a lobbying firm with which you subcontract.
- If your firm does not have a partner, owner, officer, or employee who qualifies as a lobbyist, state "not applicable."


☐ If more space is needed, check box and attach continuation sheets.

## II Lobbyist Employers

- Use Section A to report each client with whom your firm has a direct contract to provide lobbying services.
- Use Section B to report lobbying firms with which your firm subcontracts to provide lobbying services and the clients on whose behalf your firm will lobby.
- Attach a Form 602 for each person identified in Section A or B.

### SECTION A

Employer's Name, Address and Telephone Number	Effective Date	Period of Contract
Agencies to be Lobbied	Description of Employer's Lobbying Interests	
Employer's Name, Address and Telephone Number	Effective Date	Period of Contract
Agencies to be Lobbied	Description of Employer's Lobbying Interests	

☐ If more space is needed, check box and attach continuation sheets.

# Instructions for Lobbying Firm Registration Statement

## Reporting Agencies to be Lobbied

Each lobbyist identified in Part I will be registered to lobby all agencies listed on the Lobbying Firm Registration Statement and all subsequent amendments unless a lobbyist identifies specific agencies on his/her Lobbyist Certification Statement (Form 604).

## Reporting Lobbying Interests

Following are some examples of how to report lobbying interests on the registration statement:

### *Example 1:*

Lobbying Firm A has ABC Corporation as a client. ABC Corporation develops, manufactures, and distributes pharmaceuticals. On the firm's Form 601 (Registration Statement), it would not be sufficient to describe the corporation's lobbying interests as "Legislation relating to business," or "Legislation relating to manufacturing." The description should say "Legislation relating to the development, manufacturing, and distribution of pharmaceuticals."

### *Example 2:*

A group of real estate companies decides to share the cost of hiring a lobbying firm to influence a specific regulation being considered by the Department of Fair Employment and Housing. Because there are 10 or more companies pooling funds to hire a lobbyist, the group qualifies as a "lobbying coalition." When the lobbying firm files its Form 601 (Registration Statement), it would not be sufficient to state that the coalition's lobbying interests are "Real estate development." The registration statement should specifically describe the administrative action to be lobbied, such as Regulations of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing relating to adults-only rental policies (Section 12-8, 12-9).

### *Example 3:*

The DEF Association is an organization which represents local government entities, such as cities and counties. Its lobbying firm's primary lobbying efforts during one reporting period are in connection with a bill to limit the liability of local governmental entities in personal injury lawsuits and a bill affecting the powers of redevelopment agencies. The firm also monitors other bills relating to local government issues, but does not actively lobby those bills. The Association's lobbying interests should be described as "Legislation relating to cities, counties, and other local government entities."

**Note:** Lobbying firms are also required to file quarterly reports disclosing, among other things, the specific legislative or administrative actions lobbied during the period covered by the report. See Form 625 (Report of Lobbying Firm), or the *Lobbying Disclosure Information Manual* for detailed information.

# Lobbying Firm Registration Statement

Type or Print in Ink

**CALIFORNIA**  
**FORM** **601**  
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMM.

NAME OF LOBBYING FIRM:

Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

## II Lobbyist Employers

### SECTION A -- (Continued)

Employer's Name, Address and Telephone Number	Effective Date	Period of Contract
Description of Employer's Lobbying Interests		
Agencies to be Lobbied		

  

Employer's Name, Address and Telephone Number	Effective Date	Period of Contract
Description of Employer's Lobbying Interests		
Agencies to be Lobbied		

  

Employer's Name, Address and Telephone Number	Effective Date	Period of Contract
Description of Employer's Lobbying Interests		
Agencies to be Lobbied		

  

Employer's Name, Address and Telephone Number	Effective Date	Period of Contract
Description of Employer's Lobbying Interests		
Agencies to be Lobbied		

☐ If more space is needed, check box and attach continuation sheets.

### SECTION B -- Subcontracted Clients

Name, Address and Telephone Number of Subcontracting Lobbying Firm:

  

Effective Date of Contract	Period of Contract
Name, Address and Telephone Number of Client on Whose Behalf Your Firm will Lobby:	
Agencies to be Lobbied	Description of Client's Lobbying Interests

☐ If more space is needed, check box and attach continuation sheets.



**Lobbying Firm  
Registration Statement**

Type or Print in Ink

<b>CALIFORNIA FORM</b>	<b>601</b>
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMM.	
Page _____ of _____	

NAME OF LOBBYING FIRM: \_\_\_\_\_

**III Statement of Responsible Officer**

I am a partner, owner, or officer of the lobbying firm of \_\_\_\_\_.

I am the person responsible for filing statements and reports and keeping records required by Chapter 6 of the Political Reform Act (Government Code Sections 81000-91015). I have read and understand the prohibitions contained in Sections 86203 and 86205.

**86203.** It shall be unlawful for a lobbyist or a lobbying firm to make gifts to one person aggregating more than ten dollars (\$10) in a calendar month, or to act as an agent or intermediary in the making of any gift, or to arrange for the making of any gift by any other person.

“Gift” as used in Section 86203 means a gift made directly or indirectly to any state candidate, elected state officer, or legislative official, or to an agency official of any agency required to be listed on the Registration Statement of the lobbying firm or the lobbyist employer of the lobbyist.

**86205.** No lobbyist or lobbying firm shall:

(a) Do anything with the purpose of placing any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate under personal obligation to the lobbyist, the lobbying firm, or the lobbyist’s or the firm’s employer.

(b) Deceive or attempt to deceive any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate with regard to any material fact pertinent to any pending or proposed legislative or administrative action.

(c) Cause or influence the introduction of any bill or amendment thereto for the purpose of thereafter being employed to secure its passage or defeat.

(d) Attempt to create a fictitious appearance of public favor or disfavor of any proposed legislative or administrative action or to cause any communication to be sent to any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate in the name of any fictitious person or in the name of any real person, except with the consent of such real person.

(e) Represent falsely, either directly or indirectly, that the lobbyist or the lobbying firm can control the official action of any elected state officer, legislative official, or agency official.

(f) Accept or agree to accept any payment in any way contingent upon the defeat, enactment, or outcome of any proposed legislative or administrative action.

**VERIFICATION**

**I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this Statement. I have reviewed this Statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein is true and complete.**

**I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.**

Executed On \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

Name of Responsible Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
TYPE OR PRINT

1990

**FORM 615**  
**LOBBYIST REPORT**

Every lobbyist must complete the "Lobbyist Report" (Form 615) for each calendar quarter, regardless of the level of activity of the lobbyist, and whether or not the lobbyist has made any payments during the quarter. Note: An individual contract lobbyist also must file reports as a lobbying firm.

If you are registered as a lobbying firm, or are a partner, owner, or employee of a lobbying firm, your completed Form 615 must be attached to the firm's quarterly report (Form 625). If you are an in-house employee lobbyist who is not registered as a lobbying firm, your completed Form 615 must be attached to your employer's quarterly report (Form 635).

The periods covered and the filing deadlines for the "Lobbyist Report" are as follows:

<b>PERIOD COVERED</b>	<b>FILING DEADLINE</b>
January, February, and March	April 30
April, May, and June	July 31
July, August, and September	October 31
October, November, and December	January 31

If a report is sent by first class mail, it is considered received on the date of postmark. Filing deadlines which fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or official state holiday are extended to the next regular business day.

**IMPORTANT:** Except as noted above, there are no provisions in the Political Reform Act for extensions of the filing deadlines. A person who files after the deadline is liable for a fine of \$10 per day until the report is filed.

Instructions for completing the report are on the back of page 1.

File an original and one copy of this form with:

Secretary of State  
Political Reform Division  
1500 11th Street  
P.O. Box 1467  
Sacramento, CA 95812-1467

*REFER TO THE INFORMATION MANUAL ON LOBBYING DISCLOSURE PROVISIONS OF THE POLITICAL REFORM ACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. FOR ASSISTANCE, CALL 916/322-5660.*

**LOBBYIST REPORT**  
**(Government Code Section 86113)**

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

**FORM 615**  
**1990**

REPORT COVERS PERIOD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ THROUGH \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT:** This report is to be completed by the lobbyist and attached to the Report of Lobbying Firm (Form 625) or Report of Lobbyist Employer/Report of Lobbying Coalition (Form 635), whichever is applicable.

TYPE OR PRINT IN INK

*For information required to be provided to you pursuant to the Information Practices Act of 1977, see Information Manual on Lobbying Disclosure Provisions of the Political Reform Act.*

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

**A**

**B**

NAME: (Last) (First) (M.I.)

NAME OF FIRM, EMPLOYER, OR COALITION:

BUSINESS ADDRESS: (Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

( )

MAILING ADDRESS: (If different than above)

**PART I - ACTIVITY EXPENSES PAID, INCURRED, ARRANGED OR PROVIDED BY THE LOBBYIST** (See definitions and instructions on reverse.)

☐ I have reviewed the form and instructions for reporting Activity Expenses and I have nothing to report.

Date	Name and Address of Payee	Name and Official Position of Reportable Persons and Amount Benefiting Each		Description of Consideration	Total Amount of Activity
			\$		\$

☐ If more space is needed, check box and attach continuation sheets

**PART II - CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS MADE OR DELIVERED** (See instructions on reverse.)

I have reviewed the form and instructions for reporting Campaign Contributions Made or Delivered and:

☐ Part II has been completed and is attached.

☐ I have nothing to report.

**VERIFICATION**

**I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this Report. I have reviewed the Report and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and in the attached schedules is true and complete.**

**I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.**

**C**

**D**

**E**

**F**

EXECUTED ON (DATE)

AT (CITY AND STATE)

BY (SIGNATURE OF LOBBYIST)

**LOBBYIST REPORT (FORM 615)**  
**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING PAGE 1**

**NAME OF FIRM, EMPLOYER OR COALITION:** If you are registered as a lobbying firm, or you are a partner, owner, or employee of a lobbying firm, provide the name of the firm as contained on the firm's registration statement (Form 601). If you are an in-house employee lobbyist, enter the name of your employer as contained on the employer's registration statement (Form 603).

**PERIOD COVERED BY REPORT:** The period covered is the calendar quarter. (See the cover sheet of this form for period covered.)

**PART I -- ACTIVITY EXPENSES:** An "activity expense" is any expense incurred or payment made which benefits in whole or in part any elective state official, legislative official, agency official, state candidate, or a member of the immediate family of one of these individuals. Activity expenses include gifts, honoraria, consulting fees, salaries, and any other form of compensation but do not include campaign contributions.

An "agency official" is any official of a state agency whose administrative actions you have attempted or are attempting to influence.

You must itemize all "activity expenses" arranged, incurred or paid by you, and you must report activity expenses during the period in which they occurred regardless of whether they were actually paid during the period. **IMPORTANT:** See the Information Manual on Lobbying Disclosure Provisions of the Political Reform Act for discussion and examples of "arranging" a gift.

- If you have not paid, incurred, or arranged any activity expenses during the period, check the box to indicate that you have nothing to report.
- If you have paid, incurred, or arranged any activity expenses:

*Date:* Enter the date the expense was incurred or the event occurred.

*Name and Address of Payee:* List the name and address of the vendor or other person to whom payment was made or incurred. If charged on a credit card, you must list the name of the credit card company and also the name of the vendor which received the payment.

*Name and Official Position of Reportable Persons and Amount Benefiting Each:* List the name and official position, if any, of each reportable person who benefited from the payment. Also list the portion of the total activity expense which is attributable to each reportable person. Note: You are not required to list in this section yourself or any other person who benefited who is not a reportable person. You must, however, maintain in your records the total number of persons who benefited.

*Description of Consideration:* Describe the goods or services received by the reportable person(s), e.g., lunch, drinks, flowers, etc.

*Total Amount of Activity:* Enter the total amount paid, arranged, or incurred for the activity, not just the amount which benefited reportable persons. Regardless of the number of beneficiaries listed for a single payment, enter the payment in the "Total Amount of Activity" column only once.

**PART II -- CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS MADE OR DELIVERED:** Check the applicable box and, if you have made any campaign contributions of \$100 or more to state candidates, elected state officers, their controlled committees, or committees primarily formed to support such an officer or candidate, or personally delivered any contributions of \$100 or more to state candidates or elected state officers, complete and attach Part II.

*REFER TO THE INFORMATION MANUAL ON LOBBYING DISCLOSURE PROVISIONS OF THE POLITICAL REFORM ACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. FOR ASSISTANCE, CALL 916/322-5660.*

**CONTINUATION SHEET FOR PAGE 1**  
**ACTIVITY EXPENSES**

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

**LOBBYIST REPORT (FORM 615)**

NAME OF LOBBYIST: \_\_\_\_\_ PERIOD COVERED: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>PART I - ACTIVITY EXPENSES</b> (Continued)					
Date	Name and Address of Payee	Name and Official Position of Reportable Persons and Amount Benefiting Each		Description of Consideration	Total Amount of Activity
			\$		\$

☐ If more space is needed, check box and attach continuation sheets

NAME OF LOBBYIST: \_\_\_\_\_ PERIOD COVERED: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART II - CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS MADE OR DELIVERED**

Disclose all monetary and non-monetary campaign contributions of \$100 or more made from your personal funds during the quarter, or from a separate account under your control, to state candidates, elected state officers, their controlled committees, or committees primarily formed to support such officers or candidates, or delivered in person by you to state candidates or elected state officers.

Date	Name of Contributor (If other than Lobbyist)	Name of Separate Account (If applicable)	Name of Recipient (If Committee, also enter I.D. Number)	Amount
				\$

NOTE: Disclosure in this report does not relieve a filer of any obligation to file campaign disclosure statements required by Gov. Code Section 84200, et seq.

## Works Cited

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- Kam, Dara. "New state Senate President bites the hands that feed him." PalmBeachPost.com. 1 March 2005. <http://palmbeachpost.printthis.clickability.com/pt/cpt>
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