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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND
LOBBYING REFORM ACT

Introduced By: Representative Brian C. Newberry

Date Introduced: February 26, 2025

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42-139.1-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-139.1 entitled "The
2 Rhode Island Lobbying Reform Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **42-139.1-6. Lobbying reports — Lobbyists.**

4 (a) Every registered lobbyist shall file with the secretary a report listing, for the indicated
5 reporting period, the following information related to said lobbyist, together with all updates to said
6 information upon each subsequent applicable filing:

7 (1) All compensation that the lobbyist received for lobbying;

8 (2) The name(s) of the person(s) who paid the compensation;

9 (3) All expenditures made for the purpose of lobbying, other than routine office expenses;

10 (4) All money and anything of value provided or promised to any legislative or executive
11 branch official which in the aggregate exceeds two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) in the current
12 calendar year;

13 (5) All annual campaign contributions in excess of ~~one hundred dollars (\$100)~~ two hundred
14 dollars (\$200) made to any elected state official, candidate for state-level elected office, or political
15 action committee;

16 (6) The legislation by bill number or by the subject matter(s) of the lobbying; and

17 (7) The executive branch officials or public bodies lobbied.

18 (b) All reports shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the secretary, and the reports

1 shall be maintained as public documents.

2 (c) Reports shall be filed by the fifteenth day of each of February, March, April, May, June,
3 and July for activity relating to the lobbyist's activity during the calendar month immediately
4 preceding each said filing, and upon any termination of the lobbyist's engagement. Reports relating
5 to the lobbyist's activity in July, August, September, October, November, and December shall be
6 filed on or prior to October fifteenth, and January fifteenth of each calendar year for activity relating
7 to the lobbyist's activity during the three (3) calendar months immediately preceding each said
8 filing, and upon any termination of the lobbyist's engagement.

9 (d) For purposes of this section, any in-house lobbyist shall disclose only that portion of
10 the compensation which represents a reasonable estimate of the percentage of the time spent by the
11 in-house lobbyist on lobbying activities.

12 (e) Governmental lobbyists shall be exempt from the reporting requirements of subsection
13 (a).

14 (f) For purposes of this section, any contract lobbyist who is employed by a firm,
15 corporation, partnership, or other entity shall disclose the total compensation paid to that entity, but
16 shall not be required by this section to disclose the percentage of said compensation paid to
17 individual partners, members, or employees.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND
LOBBYING REFORM ACT

1 This act would change the requirement for a registered lobbyist to file with the secretary a
2 report listing all political contributions from one hundred dollars (\$100) to two hundred dollars
3 (\$200) per annual cycle.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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