

2012 -- H 7122

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LC00450
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY - LOBBYING

Introduced By: Representatives Ruggiero, Valencia, Ehrhardt, Hull, and Bennett

Date Introduced: January 12, 2012

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 22-10-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 22-10 entitled "Lobbying"
2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **22-10-8. Identification badge.** -- (a) There shall be issued by the secretary of state to
4 every person who shall qualify as a legislative lobbyist, as provided in this chapter, and who shall
5 have complied with the provisions of this chapter for the prior calendar year, if applicable, an
6 identification badge evidencing qualification in the form as shall be prescribed by the secretary of
7 state. Every lobbyist shall conspicuously display this identification badge on his or her clothing
8 while in the state house at all times of the day during any legislative session, special legislative
9 session, and at all times of the day during any committee meeting or joint committee meeting of
10 the general assembly. ~~The color of the identification badge shall be changed each legislative year.~~
11 The badge shall include, but not be limited to, the word "Lobbyist" in bold print as well as the
12 name of the lobbyist, the year, ~~the registration number of the lobbyist,~~ and the name of the
13 employer.

14 (b) An annual fee equal to the actual cost of preparing the ~~badge~~ badges, but not
15 exceeding five dollars (\$5.00) per entity represented, shall be paid by the lobbyist. The fee shall
16 be paid to the secretary of state at the time of registration for deposit in the state's general
17 treasury.

18 SECTION 2. Section 42-139-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-139 entitled
19 "Executive Branch and Public Corporation Lobbying" is hereby amended to read as follows:

1 **42-139-4. Entry of names of lobbyists on register required.** – (a) Every person,
2 corporation, or association that engages any person to act as a lobbyist as defined in section 42-
3 139-2 shall, after the commencement of the annual session, within seven (7) days after the date of
4 such employment, cause the name of the person, corporation, or association and the name of the
5 person so engaged, or agreed to be engaged, as well as a brief summary of the subject matter, to
6 be entered in the register as herein provided in the office of the secretary of state. It shall also be
7 the duty of the person so engaged as a lobbyist to enter or cause to be entered his or her name in
8 the register within seven (7) days after his or her date of employment. Upon the termination of the
9 engagement, that fact shall be entered opposite the name of any person so engaged by the
10 employer or employee.

11 (b) No person, corporation or association shall be allowed to cause the name of the
12 person, corporation or association and the name of the person so engaged to be entered into the
13 register of the office of the secretary of state unless full compliance, if any required, of the
14 provisions of this chapter have been met for the prior calendar year.

15 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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1 This act would make certain changes to the style and fee structure relating to legislative
2 lobbyist badges. This act would also require a lobbyist registered to lobby the executive branch
3 under chapter 42-139 of the general laws to have fully complied with the requirements of that
4 chapter in the previous calendar year prior to registering for the current legislative session.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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