

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 452—COMMITTEE ON
LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

MARCH 25, 2019

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing lobbyists.
(BDR 17-1103)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets *[omitted material]* is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to lobbying; authorizing the Legislative Commission to adopt regulations to provide certain exemptions and exceptions from the provisions governing lobbying; revising provisions governing the filing of a supplemental registration statement; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

The Nevada Lobbying Disclosure Act regulates lobbying before the Legislature and is administered by the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau. (Chapter 218H of NRS) For the purposes of the Act, the Legislature has declared that the operation of responsible representative government requires that the fullest opportunity be afforded to the people to petition their government for the redress of grievances and to express freely to individual Legislators and to legislative committees their opinions on legislation. (NRS 218H.020) With certain exceptions, a lobbyist under the Act is a person who: (1) appears in person in the Legislative Building or any other building in which the Legislature or any of its standing committees hold meetings; and (2) communicates directly on behalf of someone other than himself or herself with a Legislator, member of a Legislator’s staff or other person employed with reference to a Legislator’s legislative duties to influence legislative action. (NRS 218H.080) **Section 2** of this bill authorizes the Legislative Commission to adopt regulations that provide for exemptions and exceptions to the Act in order to carry out the declared purpose of the Act.

Under existing law, a person who acts as a lobbyist is required, not later than 2 days after the beginning of that activity, to file a registration statement with the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau. (NRS 218H.200) Additionally, existing law requires a registrant to file a supplementary registration statement with the Director not later than 5 days after any change in the registrant’s last registration statement. (NRS 218H.220) **Section 1** of this bill revises this deadline for filing a supplementary registration statement to: (1) within 24 hours after a change during



23 the time when the Legislature is in regular or special session; and (2) within 14
24 days after a change during the legislative interim.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 218H.220 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 218H.220 1. Each person required to register shall file a
4 supplementary registration statement with the Director ~~no later than~~
5 ~~5 days~~ after any change in the registrant's last registration
6 statement ~~it~~:

7 *(a) During a regular or special session of the Legislature,*
8 *within 24 hours after the change.*

9 *(b) While the Legislature is not in regular or special session,*
10 *within 14 days after the change.*

11 2. The supplementary registration statement must include
12 complete details concerning the changes that have occurred.

13 **Sec. 2.** NRS 218H.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 218H.500 1. The Legislative Commission ~~shall~~:

15 *(a) Shall* adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this
16 chapter.

17 *(b) May adopt regulations that provide for exemptions and*
18 *exceptions from the provisions of this chapter in order to afford to*
19 *the people the fullest opportunity to petition their government for*
20 *the redress of grievances and to express freely to individual*
21 *Legislators and to legislative committees their opinions on*
22 *legislation.*

23 2. The Legislative Commission may, except as otherwise
24 provided in this subsection, require fees for registration, payable
25 into the Legislative Fund. For the purposes of fees for registration,
26 the Legislative Commission shall classify lobbyists as follows:

27 (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c), a lobbyist
28 who receives any compensation for his or her lobbying activities.

29 (b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) or (d), a
30 lobbyist who does not receive any compensation for his or her
31 lobbying activities.

32 (c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d), a lobbyist
33 whose lobbying activities are only on behalf of one or more
34 nonprofit organizations that are recognized as exempt under section
35 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3). Such
36 a lobbyist is not required to pay a fee of more than \$100 for
37 registration pursuant to this subsection.

38 (d) A veteran who does not receive compensation for the
39 veteran's lobbying activities and who provides proof of his or her



1 discharge or release from the Armed Forces of the United States, a
2 reserve component thereof or the National Guard under honorable
3 conditions. Such a lobbyist is not required to pay any fee for
4 registration pursuant to this subsection.

5 3. The Director shall:

6 (a) Prepare and furnish forms for the statements and reports
7 required to be filed.

8 (b) Prepare and publish uniform methods of accounting and
9 reporting to be used by persons required to file such statements and
10 reports, including guidelines for complying with the reporting
11 requirements of this chapter.

12 (c) Accept and file any information voluntarily supplied that
13 exceeds the requirements of this chapter.

14 (d) Develop a filing, coding and cross-indexing system
15 consistent with the purposes of this chapter.

16 (e) Make the statements and reports available for public
17 inspection during regular office hours.

18 (f) Preserve the statements and reports for a period of 5 years
19 from the date of filing.

20 (g) Compile and keep current an alphabetical list of registrants,
21 which must include each registrant's address, the name and address
22 of each person for whom the registrant is lobbying and the principal
23 areas of interest on which the registrant expects to lobby. A copy of
24 the list must be furnished to each Legislator, to the clerks of the
25 respective counties for preservation and public inspection, and to
26 any person who requests a copy and pays the cost of reproduction.

