

1 State of Arkansas
2 80th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1995

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1782

4 By: Representatives Flanagan, von Gremp, Schexnayder, *Ferrell and Argue*

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE § 21-8-604 TO REQUIRE
9 REGISTERED LOBBYISTS OR THOSE EMPLOYING REGISTERED
10 LOBBYISTS TO DISCLOSE BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH MEMBERS OF
11 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH EXCEED ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS
12 (\$1,000) PER CALENDAR QUARTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

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15 "TO REQUIRE REGISTERED LOBBYISTS TO
16 DISCLOSE BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH MEMBERS
17 OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH EXCEED
18 \$1,000 PER QUARTER."

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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 21-8-604 is amended to read as follows:
23 "21-8-604. Activity reports - Required contents.

24 The lobbyist activity reports shall be signed and sworn to by the
25 registered lobbyist. The reports shall contain:

26 (1) The total of all expenditures made or incurred by the registered
27 lobbyist or on behalf of the registered lobbyist by his or her employer
28 during the preceding period. These totals shall be itemized according to
29 financial category and employers and clients, including food and
30 refreshments, entertainment, living accommodations, advertising, printing,
31 postage, travel, telephone, and other expenses or services. Registered
32 lobbyists shall not be required to report office expenses other than office
33 expenses specifically required to be reported under this section. Registered
34 lobbyists are not required to report unreimbursed personal living and travel
35 expenses not incurred directly for lobbying;

1 (2)(A) An itemized listing of each:

2 (i) Gift given to a public servant or on behalf of the
3 public servant;

4 (ii) Payment for food, lodging, or travel in excess of
5 twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) on behalf of a public servant; and

6 (iii) Any other item paid or given to a public servant or
7 on behalf of the public servant, except for campaign contributions, having a
8 value in excess of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) unless consideration of equal
9 or greater value has been given therefor.

10 (B) Each item shall be identified by date, amount paid or value,
11 and the name of the individual receiving or to be benefited by the item, and
12 a description of the item.

13 (C) In the case of special events, including parties, dinners,
14 athletic events, entertainment, and other functions, expenses need not be
15 allocated by individuals, but the date of the event, location, name of the
16 governmental body or groups of public servants invited, and total expense
17 shall be stated;

18 (3) A detailed statement of any money loaned or promised or line of
19 credit established to a public servant or to anyone on behalf of the public
20 servant in excess of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per individual. Money
21 loaned or a line of credit established that is issued in the ordinary course
22 of business by a financial institution or a person who regularly and
23 customarily extends credit shall not be required to be disclosed;

24 (4) A statement detailing the direct business association or
25 partnership with any public servant before whom the lobbyist may engage in
26 lobbying and on the quarterly lobbyist activity reports only, a listing
27 itemized by amount, payee, and affected members of the General Assembly of
28 each payment by the registered lobbyist or by his or her employer related to
29 business transactions or professional services in excess of one thousand
30 dollars (\$1,000) per calendar quarter made to:

31 (A) a member of the General Assembly;

32 (B) a member's spouse; or

33 (C) any person or entity listed on the portion of the member's
34 statement of financial interest filed pursuant to subdivision (d)(1) of
35 Arkansas Code § 21-8-701, and pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Arkansas Code

1 § 21-8-701 with respect to each source of income of more than twelve thousand
2 *five hundred dollars (\$12,500), for the year immediately preceding the year*
3 *encompassing the quarterly lobbyist activity reports."*

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5 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of general and permanent nature
6 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
7 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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9 SECTION 3. If any provisions of this act or the application thereof to
10 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect
11 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
12 the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this
13 act are declared to be severable.

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15 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
16 hereby repealed.

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18 SECTION 5. Emergency. It is hereby found and determined by the
19 Eightieth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that disclosure of
20 financial dealings of registered lobbyists is important to an open and
21 democratic government; that disclosure of the business dealings of lobbyists
22 during sessions of the Arkansas General Assembly are necessary to detect any
23 possible appearances of conflicts of interests; and that there exists a need
24 to require additional financial disclosures by lobbyists beginning in the
25 current 1995 General Assembly. Therefore, in order to implement additional
26 lobbyist reporting requirements for the first quarterly report for 1995, an
27 emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the
28 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, shall be in
29 full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

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31 */s/Rep. Flanagan, et al*

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