

Defining Lobbying and Lobbyists

Legislative Branch

Lobbying:

- (a) Any direct act or communication with a legislator, the purpose of which is to aid in influencing the passage or defeat of any legislation.
- **(b)** Any preparation or research specifically intended, at the time it is performed, for use in or in support of any ongoing or planned direct act or communication with a legislator, the purpose of which is to aid in influencing the passage or defeat of any legislation.
- (c) Conducting or attending a meeting the purpose of which is to discuss direct communication with a legislator to aid in influencing the passage or defeat of any legislation.

Who Has to Register as a Legislative Lobbyist?

- (a) Any person who is employed or engaged for compensation to act in a representative capacity for the purpose of lobbying if lobbying constitutes one of the principal duties of such employment or engagement. "Principal duty" is defined as any duty which is expected to account for 20% or more of a person's time in fulfilling the terms of his engagement or any duty which is expected to account for 20% or more of a person's time in any given year in performing the responsibilities of his employment.
- (b) Any person who acts in a representative capacity and makes an expenditure on a legislator.
- **(c)** Any person who does not make any direct act or have any direct communication with a legislator for the purpose of influencing the passage or defeat of any legislation is not a lobbyist.

Executive Branch

Lobbying:

Any direct act or communication with an executive branch official, the purpose of which is to aid in influencing an executive branch action.

Who Has to Register as an Executive Branch Lobbyist?

Any person who acts in a representative capacity and makes an expenditure on a member of the executive branch.

Lobbyist Registration Exception:

Elected officials or any designees of the elected officials, where such designees are public employees and where such elected officials or public employees are acting in the performance of their official public duties, are not required to register as lobbyists in either the legislative or executive branches.

Note: The information above is a summary of the law. Please refer to the Board of Ethics for specific guidance or questions.