

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2014, Legislative Day No. 12

Bill No. 39-14

Introduced by Mr. Benoit

By the County Council, May 5, 2014

Introduced and first read on May 5, 2014
Public Hearing set for June 2, 2014
Bill Expires August 8, 2014

By Order: Elizabeth E. Jones, Administrative Officer

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning: Ethics – Registered Lobbyists

2
3 FOR the purpose of defining certain terms; establishing certain restrictions for activities
4 of lobbyists registered to lobby in the County; and generally related to ethics laws.

5
6 BY renumbering: §§ 7-7-105 through 7-7-107 to be 7-7-106 through 7-7-108
7 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)

8
9 BY adding: § 7-7-105
10 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)

11
12 SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County,*
13 *Maryland,* That §§ 7-7-105 through 7-7-107 (Anne Arundel County Code 2005, as
14 amended) are hereby renumbered to be 7-7-106 through 7-7-108, respectively.

15
16 SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted,* That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County
17 Code (2005, as amended) read as follows:

18
19 **ARTICLE 7. PUBLIC ETHICS**

20
21 **TITLE 7. LOBBYING DISCLOSURE**

22
23 **7-7-105. Certain registered lobbyists -- Restriction on certain activities**

24
25 (A) **Definitions.** IN THIS SECTION, "CANDIDATE", "CONTRIBUTION", AND "POLITICAL
26 COMMITTEE" HAVE THE MEANINGS PROVIDED IN THE ELECTION LAW ARTICLE, § 1-101,
27 OF THE STATE CODE.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

1 (B) **Applicable time period.** THE RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (D)
2 APPLY FROM THE STARTING DATE OF THE REGISTERED LOBBYIST'S REGISTRATION TO
3 THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE REGISTRATION PERIOD ENDS.
4

5 (C) **Scope.**
6

7 (1) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A REGISTERED LOBBYIST WHO:
8

9 (I) COMMUNICATES WITH AN OFFICIAL OR EMPLOYEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE
10 OR EXECUTIVE BRANCH FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFLUENCING ANY LEGISLATIVE OR
11 ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION AND EXPENDS MORE THAN \$250 IN EXPENSES OR EARNS MORE
12 THAN \$2,500 RELATED TO SUCH COMMUNICATION DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD;
13

14 (II) SPENDS MORE THAN \$100 IN CUMULATIVE VALUE FOR GIFTS, INCLUDING
15 MEALS AND BEVERAGES AND SPECIAL EVENTS, TO ONE OR MORE OFFICIALS TO
16 INFLUENCE ANY LEGISLATIVE OR EXECUTIVE ACTION;
17

18 (III) IS COMPENSATED TO INFLUENCE EXECUTIVE ACTION ON A
19 PROCUREMENT CONTRACT THAT EXCEEDS \$25,000; OR
20

21 (IV) IS COMPENSATED BY A BUSINESS ENTITY TO INFLUENCE EXECUTIVE
22 ACTION IN ORDER TO SECURE A COUNTY GRANT OR LOAN HAVING A VALUE OF MORE
23 THAN \$100,000.
24

25 (2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A REGISTERED LOBBYIST WHO IS A
26 CANDIDATE WITH RESPECT TO THE REGISTERED LOBBYIST'S OWN CAMPAIGN.
27

28 (D) **Restrictions on activities.**
29

30 (1) A REGISTERED LOBBYIST WHO IS SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION OR A PERSON
31 ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE REGISTERED LOBBYIST MAY NOT, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE
32 COUNTY EXECUTIVE OR A COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER OR A CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION
33 TO THE OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE OR COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER, ENGAGE IN THE
34 FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:
35

36 (I) SOLICIT OR TRANSMIT A POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION FROM ANY PERSON,
37 INCLUDING A POLITICAL COMMITTEE;
38

39 (II) SERVE ON A FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE OR A POLITICAL COMMITTEE;
40

41 (III) ACT AS A TREASURER FOR A CANDIDATE OR OFFICIAL OR AS TREASURER
42 OR CHAIRMAN OF A POLITICAL COMMITTEE;
43

44 (IV) ORGANIZE OR ESTABLISH A POLITICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF
45 SOLICITING OR TRANSMITTING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ANY PERSON; OR
46

47 (V) FORWARD TICKETS FOR FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES, OR OTHER
48 SOLICITATIONS FOR POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS, TO A POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTOR.
49

50 (2) A REGISTERED LOBBYIST WHO IS SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY:
51

52 (I) MAKE A PERSONAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION;
53

54 (II) INFORM ANY ENTITY OF A POSITION TAKEN BY A CANDIDATE OR
55 OFFICIAL; AND

1 (III) ENGAGE IN OTHER ACTIVITIES NOT SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED UNDER
2 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.
3

4 SECTION 3. *And be it further enacted,* That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days
5 from the date it becomes law.