

SB 43 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 3/13, 5/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Recasts and clarifies provisions excluding specified individuals from certain lobbyist registration and statement filing requirement exemptions. Excludes person who holds position with public body or private entity and whose work responsibilities include lobbying from certain lobbyist registration and statement requirement exemptions.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current application of exemption to lobbyists, public officials and members of public
- Per diem and reimbursement of expenses thresholds
- Differences between providing information and influencing legislation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Proposed: Recasts the current exemption with regard to lobbyist registration and expenditure statement filing requirements. Adds that a public official who holds a position with a public body with a written job description that includes lobbying and a person who provides professional services to an entity who meets specified criteria is not exempt from the aforementioned lobbyist filing requirements. Specifies the exemption applies to specified elected officials, certain representatives supervising an entity's lobbying activities and individuals meeting with legislative members in a personal capacity. Adds emergency clause and conditional enactment language.

BACKGROUND:

According to ORS 171.725, a *lobbyist* includes any of the following: 1) any individual who agrees to provide personal services for compensation or other consideration for the purpose of lobbying; 2) any individual who provides personal services as a representative of a corporation, association, organization or other entity for the purpose of lobbying; or 3) any public official who lobbies. Current statute defines *lobbying* to mean influencing, or attempting to influence, legislative action through communication with legislative officials, solicitation of executive officials or other individuals to influence legislative action or obtain the goodwill of legislative officials.

ORS 171.740 requires an individual to register as a lobbyist with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC) by filing a prescribed statement within three days of exceeding an aggregate of 24 hours spent lobbying or spending an aggregate amount that exceeds \$100 lobbying during any calendar quarter. Additionally, a person must register with OGEC as a lobbyist the day after the lobbyist first appears or works for an entity they are not already registered to represent or after agreeing to provide personal services for compensation or other consideration for the purpose of lobbying. Individuals who meet the criteria for lobbyist registration are further required to file specified expenditure statement information with OGEC as prescribed.

Senate Bill 43 recasts current exemptions with regard to lobbyist registration and expenditure statement filing requirements, and adds that a person who holds a position with a public body or a private entity, and whose work responsibilities include lobbying, is not exempt from the aforementioned lobbyist filing requirements.