

**LOBBYING**

**Table 7.39  
LOBBYISTS: DEFINITIONS AND PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES**

State or other jurisdiction	Definition of a lobbyist includes						Prohibited activities involving lobbyists						
	Legislative lobbying	Administrative agency lobbying	Elective officials as lobbyists	Public employees as lobbyists	Compensation standard	Expenditure standard	Time standard	Making campaign contributions at any time	Making campaign contributions during legislative sessions	Making expenditures in excess of \$ per official per year	Solicitation by officials or employees for contributions or gifts	Contingent compensation	Other
Alabama .....	★	★	...	★	...	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...
Alaska .....	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	(hh)	★	...	★	★	...
Arizona .....	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
Arkansas .....	★	★	★	★	...	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	(r)
California .....	★	★	...	★	★	...	★	(a)	(b)	...	(c)	...	(d)
Colorado .....	★	...	★	...	★	★	...	★	★	...	...	★	...
Connecticut* .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	★	...	★	...	...	★	(d,e)
Delaware .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	...	...	...	...	(o)	...	...
Florida .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	...	★	...	...	★	★	...
Georgia .....	★	...	...	★	★	★	...	...	★	...	...	★	(f)
Hawaii .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	...
Idaho .....	★	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
Illinois .....	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	(g)
Indiana .....	★	...	...	...	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	(g,f,h)
Iowa .....	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	(i)	★	★	...
Kansas .....	★	★	...	...	...	★	...	...	★	\$ 40 (j)	★	★	...
Kentucky .....	★	★	...	...	...	★	...	★	...	\$100	★	★	...
Louisiana .....	★	...	...	...	★	★	...	...	★(k)	...	★	...	(l)
Maine .....	★	(m)	...	(n)	★	★	★	...	...	...	(o)	...	...
Maryland .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	(p)
Massachusetts .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	★	(d)
Michigan .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	★	(d,q,r)
Minnesota .....	★	★	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	★	...	(t)
Mississippi* .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
Missouri* .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	(u)
Montana .....	★	★	...	★	...	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	(v)
Nebraska .....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
Nevada .....	★	...	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	\$100	...	★	(x)
New Hampshire .....	★	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Jersey .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Mexico .....	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	...	...	★	★
New York .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	...
North Carolina .....	★	...	...	(y)	...	...	...	...	★	...	...	★	...
North Dakota .....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ohio .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	★	(y,z,aa)
Oklahoma .....	★	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	★	...	...	(bb)
Oregon .....	★	...	★	★	...	★	...	...	...	...	(cc)	...	...
Pennsylvania .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	...	★	...	...	...	★	...
Rhode Island* .....	★	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Carolina .....	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	★	★	(dd)	★	★	(d,dd)
South Dakota .....	★	...	...	★	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	★	...
Tennessee .....	★	★	...	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
Texas .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	...	...	...	(ee)	...	★	(e,f,ff)
Utah .....	★	★	★(ii)	★(jj)	★	(kk)	...	...	★	...	(ll)	★	★(mm)
Vermont .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
Virginia .....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
Washington .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
West Virginia .....	★	★	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	...	(gg)	...	...
Wisconsin .....	★	★	...	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	...
Wyoming .....	★	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	(z)
Dist. of Columbia .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	...	...	...	\$100	...	...	...

See footnotes at end of table.

## LOBBYING

### LOBBYISTS: DEFINITIONS AND PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES — Continued

Source: The Council of State Governments' survey, January 2000, except as noted by \* where data is from *The Book of the States, 1998-99*.

**Key:**

★— Application exists.

. . . — Not applicable.

- (a) Cannot deliver a contribution in the state capitol or any state building.
- (b) Does not apply to campaign contributions. Cannot act as an agent or intermediary in the making of any gift or to arrange for the making of any gift by any other person.
- (c) No prohibition on officials soliciting but officials may only accept gifts from a single source in any calendar year with a total value of \$250.
- (d) Lobbyists making gifts in excess of the following thresholds to state officials: California, \$10. per year; Connecticut, \$50 for gifts per year, \$150 for food and drink per year; Michigan, \$44 per month per official; South Carolina, anything of value.
- (e) Giving of fees and honoraria banned; "necessary expenses" allowed.
- (f) Offering or proposing anything which may be reasonably construed to improperly influence a legislator's official acts, decisions or votes. Lobbying without registering.
- (g) Expenditures without full disclosure; lobbying without registering.
- (h) Legislative officials, full-time public officials or employees may not receive compensation for lobbying. Lobbying without registering, if compensated.
- (i) Expenditures in excess of \$3 per official in any one calendar day.
- (j) The \$40. limit applies to all elected, state office holders.
- (k) Only if the contribution is made during an undisclosed fundraiser.
- (l) State employees prohibited from lobbying.
- (m) Governor only.
- (n) Only registration required (no fee).
- (o) Prohibited in criminal code.
- (p) Lobbyist cannot solicit, serve on committees or transmit funds relating to legislative elections. By order of the speaker of the House and president of the Senate, legislators cannot hold fund-raisers during the legislative session. Legislators are prohibited from receiving certain nominal gifts from regulated lobbyists if the cost exceeds \$15. Regulated lobbyists are prohibited from making a gift to an official or employee that cannot be accepted by that official or employee. Lobbyist campaign finance activity limitation was extended to also include elections for governor, lt. gov., attorney general and comptroller. Fundraising restrictions during session were extended to include governor, lt. gov., attorney general and comptroller.
- (q) State senators or representatives may not lobby for balance of term when they resign from office. This prohibition does not apply to other public officials.
- (r) The Campaign Finance Act prohibits state senators or representatives from accepting payment for an appearance, speech, article, or any activity related to or associated with the performance of duties as an elected official.
- (s) Officials can solicit contributions but may not accept gifts.
- (t) A district court overturned provisions prohibiting commercial use of information on all disclosure programs filed with the Campaign Finance and

Public Disclosure Board.

- (u) Employment of non-registered lobbyists.
- (v) A state officer or employee may not lobby on behalf of an organization while on the job. A public officer, legislator, or public employee may not accept a gift worth \$50 or more that would influence "a reasonable person's" professional judgement, or that would serve as a reward for a professional decision.
- (w) If over \$50 per month.
- (x) Instigating the introduction of legislation for the purpose of obtaining employment to lobby in opposition thereto. Making false statements or misrepresentation to legislators or in a registration report concerning lobbying activities. Except during specified periods, acting as a lobbyist without being registered.
- (y) State government agency liaisons lobbying on issues concerning their agency (no fee).
- (z) Lobbying without registering.
- (aa) A legislator is prohibited from accepting the following from a legislative agent: travel or lodging, over \$75 aggregated/year for meals, and \$75 aggregated year for gifts.
- (bb) May not knowingly make a false statement or representation of fact to legislative, judicial or executive branches; nor knowingly provide, to same, a copy of a document which contains a false statement without written notification of such; nor appear, during session, on the floor of the House or Senate in the absence of an express invitation.
- (cc) During regular or special session.
- (dd) Lobbyists' principals cannot offer to pay for lodging, transportation, meals, entertainment, beverages, etc. unless all members of the General Assembly, the House or the Senate, or one of the Committees, subcommittees, legislative caucuses or county legislative delegations are invited.
- (ee) Expenditures in excess of \$500 per year for entertainment or gifts.
- (ff) Lobbying without registering: giving loans or gifts of cash to legislators; pleasure trips; appearing, during session, on the floor of the House or Senate without an invitation; knowingly making a false statement or misrepresentation of fact to a member of legislative or executive branch; giving awards or mementos that exceed \$500.
- (gg) Officials can only solicit for charitable purposes.
- (hh) Alaska law prohibits lobbyists from giving campaign contributions to candidates for the legislature other than to the candidate(s) that are campaigning to represent the district in which the lobbyist is registered to vote.
- (ii) An elected official is not considered a lobbyist when acting in his official capacity on matters pertaining to their office.
- (jj) A state official is not considered a lobbyist when acting within the scope of employment.
- (kk) An individual is not required to make expenditures to be considered a lobbyist.
- (ll) There is no law prohibiting the solicitation of contributions.
- (mm) Other prohibited activities: 1. Lobbyists may not seek to influence an official by communicating with the official's employer. 2. Lobbyists may not intentionally communicate to a public official any false information that is materially related to a matter within the responsibility of the official.