

## Survey of Federal and State Lobbying Laws

### Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Lobby registration rules tend to fall into three categories. Those that require registration and reporting for:

- Category I legislative lobbying only (including executive approval or disapproval of legislation);
- Category II legislative lobbying and executive branch lobbying which is limited to influencing a rule, regulation, rate-making proceeding, or policy; and
- Category III legislative lobbying and executive branch lobbying which includes efforts to influence all non-ministerial official actions of the executive branch, including but not limited to the approval of financial arrangements on behalf of the governmental entity.

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Federal  Category III	<p>Preparation for (e.g., research, strategizing, or coordinating lobbying activity) and communication with covered legislative or executive branch officials to influence legislation or executive branch action, including but not limited to the formulation, modification, or adoption of any federal rule, regulation, executive order, or any other federal program, policy, or position, and the administration or execution of a federal program or policy (including the negotiation, award, or administration of a federal contract).</p> <p>Covered legislative branch officials include Members of Congress and Congressional staff.</p> <p>The Lobbying Disclosure Act gives the company the choice of using the LDA or IRC (tax) definition of lobbying. Covered executive branch officials under the IRC definition only include certain members of White House staff and cabinet secretaries and their deputies. Under the LDA definition, Schedule C</p>	<p>The Lobbying Disclosure Act gives the company the choice of using the LDA or IRC (tax) definition of lobbying.</p> <p>No under the LDA definition; Yes under the IRC definition</p>	<p>A company must register if it (1) has an employee who, (a) over the course of his employment, makes more than one lobbying contact, and (b) over a 3-month period, spends 20% or more of his time engaged in lobbying activities, and (2) has total expenses in connection with lobbying activities of more than \$14,000 over a 3-month period.</p> <p>An outside consultant must register if, on behalf of a client, it (1)</p>	<p>A company must register if it (1) has an employee who, (a) over the course of his employment, makes more than one lobbying contact, and (b) over a 3-month period, spends 20% or more of his time engaged in lobbying activities, and (2) has total expenses in connection with lobbying activities of more than \$14,000 over a 3-month period.</p> <p>An outside consultant must register if, on behalf of a client, it (1) over the course of its engagement, makes more than one</p>	<p>A company must register if it (1) has an employee who, (a) over the course of his employment, makes more than one lobbying contact, and (b) over a 3-month period, spends 20% or more of his time engaged in lobbying activities, and (2) has total expenses in connection with lobbying activities of more than \$14,000 over a 3-month period.</p> <p>An outside consultant must register if, on behalf of a client, it (1) over the course of its engagement, makes more than one</p>

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	appointees and above are covered.		over the course of its engagement, makes more than one lobbying contact, (2) over a 3-month period, spends 20% or more of its time working for that client engaged in lobbying activities, and (3) receives more than \$3,000 in connection with lobbying activities over a 3-month period.	lobbying contact, (2) over a 3-month period, spends 20% or more of its time working for that client engaged in lobbying activities, and (3) receives more than \$3,000 in connection with lobbying activities over a 3-month period.	lobbying contact, (2) over a 3-month period, spends 20% or more of its time working for that client engaged in lobbying activities, and (3) receives more than \$3,000 in connection with lobbying activities over a 3-month period.
Alabama  Category III	Engaging in the practice of promoting, opposing, or in any manner attempting to influence the introduction or enactment of legislation before any state or local legislative body; opposing or influencing executive approval, veto, or amendment of legislation; or promoting or opposing or in any manner attempting to influence the enactment, promulgation, modification, or deletion of regulations before a state or local regulatory body. Lobbying also includes promoting or attempting to influence the awarding of a grant or contract with any department or agency of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of state government. However, a person who appears before a legislative body, a regulatory body, or an executive agency to either sell or purchase goods or services, and a person solely acting as an economic development professional, are exempt from this definition.	No	One must register if he or she receives any compensation to lobby (or lobbies as a regular part of employment).	None	None

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Alaska  Category II	Communicating with any public official for the purpose of influencing legislative action (including the Governor's approval or veto of a bill) or administrative action ( <u>i.e.</u> , any state agency action involving any rule or regulation or any other quasi-legislative or quasi-judicial action). "Administrative action" does not include procurement activity.	No. A registered lobbyist would have to report any grassroots lobbying expenditures, but grassroots lobbying itself does not trigger registration.	<p>A person must register as a "part-time" lobbyist if the person receives payments, including reimbursement for reasonable travel and living expenses, to lobby for more than 10 hours per 30-day period in a calendar year.</p> <p>A person must register as a "professional lobbyist" if he or she represents himself/herself as engaging in influencing legislative or administrative action as a business, occupation, or profession.</p>	None	<p>A person must register as a "part-time" lobbyist if the person receives payments, including reimbursement for reasonable travel and living expenses, to lobby for more than 10 hours per 30-day period in a calendar year.</p> <p>A person must register as a "professional lobbyist" if he or she represents himself/herself as engaging in influencing legislative or administrative action as a business, occupation, or profession.</p>

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Arizona  Category III	Attempting to influence the passage or defeat of any legislation by directly communicating with any legislator; attempting to influence any formal rulemaking proceeding by directly communicating with any elected or appointed state officer or employee; or attempting to influence the procurement of materials, services, or construction by a state agency.	No	None	None	<p>A person must register as a lobbyist if the person represents another for the purpose of lobbying.</p> <p>For category III activity only, a person who is compensated for the primary purpose of lobbying must register if he or she is either (1) otherwise required to register for category I or category II activity or (2) supervised at any level by an Arizona lobbyist for compensation.</p>
Arkansas  Category III	Lobbying means communicating directly or soliciting others to communicate with any public servant with the purpose of influencing state or local legislative action or administrative action ( <i>i.e.</i> , any decision on, or making of any rule, ratemaking proceeding, or policy action). The act of attempting to obtain business or a contract from a state or local agency is not included in the definition of lobbying. However, contractors and employees that attempt to obtain business or a contract from a state or local agency may nevertheless be required to register and report if they exceed the expenditure threshold described in (3) under the expenditure column.	Yes	Independent of the expenditure threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if the person receives income or reimbursement in a combined amount of \$400 or more in a calendar quarter for lobbying.	Independent of the compensation threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if the person: (1) expends \$400 or more in a calendar quarter for lobbying, excluding the cost of personal travel, lodging, meals, or dues; (2) expends \$400 or more in a calendar quarter, including postage, for the express purpose of soliciting others to communicate with any public servant to influence any	None

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				state or local legislative action or administrative action, unless the communication has been filed with the Secretary of State or the communication has been published in the news media; or (3) provides more than \$400 in a calendar quarter in food, lodging, travel, or gifts to public servants who purchase goods or services on behalf of a state or local governmental body.	
California  Category II; Category III regarding pension fund business only	<p>Lobbying means communicating directly or through agents with a state official for the purpose of influencing legislative action (including any action of the Governor in approving or vetoing any bill) or administrative action (<u>i.e.</u>, any action by any state agency involving any rule, regulation, or other action in any rate-making proceeding or any quasi-legislative proceeding).</p> <p>In addition, lobbying, with respect to state pension funds, includes acting as a placement agent (i.e. an individual hired, engaged, or retained by, or serving for the benefit of or on behalf of, an external manager, who acts or has acted for compensation as a finder, solicitor, marketer, consultant, broker, or other intermediary in connection with the offer or sale of the investment management services of or an</p>	Yes – non-registered persons or entities that expend \$5,000 or more in a calendar quarter for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action (including grassroots lobbying) must file a statement (on Form 645) within 30 days of the end of the calendar quarter. The time and expenses of employees spending	An outside individual must register if he or she receives \$2,000 or more in economic consideration in a calendar month, other than reasonable travel expenses, to lobby. (Please note that this threshold does not apply to placement agents, for whom there is no compensation threshold.)	None	<p>An in-house employee must register to lobby if one of his or her "principal duties" as an employee (<u>i.e.</u>, the employee devotes one-third or more of his or her compensated working time in a calendar month) is to lobby.</p> <p>The above rule does not apply to placement agents or the external managers who employ or retain them because there is no applicable compensation threshold, however, an</p>

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	ownership interest in an investment fund managed by an external manager to a state public retirement system or investment vehicle, either directly or indirectly). In addition, placement agents, subject to the one-third exemption described at right and a limited competitive bid exemption, with respect to local public retirement systems must file any applicable reports with a local government agency that requires lobbyists to register and file reports and must comply with any applicable requirements imposed by a local government agency.	less than 10% of their time in a month lobbying do not count toward this \$5,000 threshold. Also, registered lobbyists must disclose grass- roots expenditures.			<p>individual who is an employee, officer, director, equityholder, partner, member, or trustee of an external manager and who spends one-third or more of his or her time, during a calendar year, managing the securities or assets owned, controlled, invested, or held by the external manager is not a placement agent.</p> <p>Non-registered persons or entities that expend \$5,000 or more in a calendar quarter for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action must file a statement (on Form 645) within 30 days of the end of the calendar quarter. The time and expenses of employees spending less than 10% of their time in a month lobbying do not count toward this \$5,000 threshold.</p>
Colorado  Category II	Lobbying means communicating directly, or soliciting others to communicate, with a covered official ( <u>i.e.</u> , the governor, lieutenant governor, a member of the general assembly, or a member of a	Yes. For grassroots lobbying by an employee of an organization who	A person must register as a lobbyist if he or she is compensated any amount for engaging in	Any person who makes expenditures for gifts or entertainment purposes for the benefit of covered	None

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	rule-making board or commission or a rule-making official of a state agency which has jurisdiction over the subject matter of a rule, standard, or rate) for the purpose of influencing legislation or rulemaking.	contacts members of the organization in response to legislation or a rule, it is not lobbying if performed by an employee only once a year and the employee is not paid solely to lobby.	lobbying.	officials in the aggregate amount of \$200 from July 1 to June 30 must file disclosure statements.	
Connecticut  Category III	Communicating directly or soliciting others to communicate with any official or his staff in the legislative or executive branch of government or in a quasi-public agency for the purpose of influencing any legislative or administrative action ( <u>e.g.</u> , rulemaking, contracts, licenses or permits). The term "lobbying" does not include communications by an employee of a vendor or a registered client lobbyist who acts as a salesperson and does not otherwise engage in lobbying regarding any administrative action.	Yes	<p>Person must register if receives compensation or expends funds of \$3,000 or more for lobbying in any calendar year, or the combined total of both is \$3,000 or more in any calendar year.</p> <p>Persons who receive no compensation specifically for lobbying and who spend no more than 5 hours in furtherance of lobbying in a calendar year need not register unless such person (A) exclusive of salary, receives compensation or expends funds of \$3,000 or more for</p>	<p>Person must register if receives compensation or expends funds of \$3,000 or more for lobbying in any calendar year, or the combined total of both is \$3,000 or more in any calendar year.</p> <p>Persons who receive no compensation specifically for lobbying and who spend no more than 5 hours in furtherance of lobbying in a calendar year need not register unless such person (A) exclusive of salary, receives compensation or expends funds of \$3,000 or more for lobbying in any calendar year, or the</p>	None

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			lobbying in any calendar year, or the combined total of both is \$3,000 or more in any such calendar year or (B) expends \$50 or more for the benefit of a public official.	combined total of both is \$3,000 or more in any such calendar year or (B) expends \$50 or more for the benefit of a public official.	



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Delaware  Category III	Acting to promote, advocate, influence or oppose any matter ( <u>i.e.</u> , any application, petition, request, business dealing, transaction or decision of any sort) pending before the General Assembly or a state agency by direct communication.	No	Independent of the expenditure threshold, any compensation for lobbying triggers registration for an individual who communicates on more than an isolated, exceptional, or infrequent basis in relation to their usual employment duties.	Independent of the compensation threshold, any expenditure for lobbying triggers registration.	Independent of the compensation or expenditure thresholds, individual is authorized to act as a representative of any person who has as a substantial purpose the influencing of legislative or administrative actions and individual communicates on more than an isolated, exceptional, or infrequent basis in relation to their usual employment duties.
District of Columbia  Category III	Communicating directly with any official in the legislative or executive branch of the D.C. government with the purpose of influencing any legislative action (including measures that review or consider any contract or procurement decision) or an administrative decision, including a contract, grant, reprogramming, or procurement of goods or services.	No	Person must register if receives compensation or expends funds of \$250 or more in any three-consecutive-calendar-month period.	Person must register if receives compensation or expends funds of \$250 or more in any three-consecutive-calendar-month period.	None

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Florida  Category III	<p><u>Legislative:</u> Influencing or attempting to influence legislative action or nonaction through oral or written communication or an attempt to obtain the goodwill of a member or employee of the Legislature.</p> <p><u>Executive:</u> Seeking, on behalf of another person, to influence an agency with respect to a decision of the agency in the area of policy or procurement or an attempt to obtain the goodwill of an agency official or employee.</p>	No (However, a lobbying firm must report sums spent on mass-produced grassroots communications as "Publications" on lobbying reports).	<p><u>Legislative:</u> For outside lobbyists, any economic consideration triggers registration.</p> <p><u>Executive:</u> For outside lobbyists, any economic consideration triggers registration.</p>	<p><u>Legislative:</u> None</p> <p><u>Executive:</u> None</p>	<p><u>Legislative:</u> For in-house employees, such employee must be "principally employed for governmental affairs" to lobby.</p> <p><u>Executive:</u> For in-house employees, such employee must be "principally employed for governmental affairs" to lobby.</p>
Georgia  Category III	<p>Lobbying is (1) promoting or opposing the passage of any local ordinance or resolution; (2) promoting or opposing any legislation by the General Assembly or any committee thereof, or the approval or veto of legislation by the Governor; (3) promoting or opposing the passage of any state agency rule or regulation; or (4) influencing a public officer or state agency in the selection of a vendor to supply goods or services to a state agency. However, a bona fide salesperson who sells to or contracts with a state agency for goods or services and who does not engage in other forms of lobbying is exempt. State agency includes a local political subdivision.</p>	Yes (subject to the thresholds at right).	<p><u>State Legislative:</u> A person must register if he or she receives or anticipates receiving more than \$250 in compensation, reimbursement, or payment of expenses in a calendar year specifically for undertaking legislative lobbying.</p> <p><u>Local Legislative:</u> A person must register if he or she is compensated specifically for undertaking local legislative lobbying.</p>	<p><u>Legislative:</u> A person must register if he or she expends in excess of \$1000 in a calendar year for legislative lobbying.</p> <p><u>Executive:</u> None</p>	None

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			<u>Executive</u> : A person must register if he or she, for compensation, is hired specifically to undertake executive lobbying.		
Hawaii  Category II	Communicating directly or indirectly, or soliciting others to so communicate, with any official of the legislative or executive branches for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action ( <u>i.e.</u> , any administrative agency decision on any rule) or a ballot issue.	Yes	A person must register if he or she receives \$1,000 or more in a calendar year for engaging in lobbying.	A person must register if, for pay or consideration, he or she (1) engages in lobbying in excess of five hours in any month; (2) engages in lobbying in excess of 10 hours in any calendar year; or (3) makes expenditures of \$1,000 or more lobbying in any reporting period.	A person must register if, for pay or consideration, he or she (1) engages in lobbying in excess of five hours in any month; (2) engages in lobbying in excess of 10 hours in any calendar year; or (3) makes expenditures of \$1,000 or more lobbying in any reporting period. Also, a person must file reports if it makes expenditures of \$1,000 or more in a reporting period for the purpose of lobbying.

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Idaho  Category III	Lobbying is (1) attempting through contacts with, or causing others to make contact with, members of the legislature, legislative committees, or executive branch to influence the approval, modification or rejection of any legislation by the legislature or the Governor, and (2) communicating with an executive official in order to influence the consideration, amendment, adoption, or rejection of any rule, rulemaking, ratemaking, procurement, contract, bid or bid process, financial services agreement, or bond issue. Activities undertaken for the purpose of developing or maintaining relationships with, promoting goodwill with, or entertaining members of the legislature or executive officials are lobbying.	Yes	A person who receives in excess of \$250 per calendar quarter for lobbying must register as a lobbyist.	None	None
Illinois  Category III	Communicating with an "official" of the executive or legislative branch of State government to influence legislative action (including the Governor's approval or veto of any bill or development of a proposal for introduction in the legislature) or executive or administrative action ( <u>i.e.</u> , any decision involving any rule, regulation, standard, fee, rate, contractual arrangement, purchasing agreement or other quasi-legislative executive branch agency action) or to promote goodwill.	Generally, no. However, grassroots expenditures made by participants in a grassroots lobbying event or as a result of a grassroots communication may trigger registration unless the expenditures are reported by the participant to the registered entity sponsoring the event or communication. The sponsoring entity must then report the expenditures on its lobbying report.	A person must register if he or she receives any compensation for lobbying, even if lobbying constitutes a small percentage of the person's job duties.	None	A person must register if he or she receives any compensation for lobbying, even if lobbying constitutes a small percentage of the person's job duties.

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Indiana  Category III	<p>Communicating by any means or paying others to communicate by any means with any legislative official for the purpose of influencing any legislative action (including the action of the Governor in approving or vetoing any bill).</p> <p>Executive branch lobbying is action or communication made to delay, oppose, promote, or otherwise influence the outcome of an agency rulemaking, or the outcome of an agency decision regarding the expenditure of state funds with respect to the award of a contract, lease, or other financial arrangement under which such funds are distributed or allocated. Communications regarding the award of incentives related to an economic development project negotiated by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation are exempt.</p>	<p><u>Legislative</u>: No, unless the company is using a citizen as an agent of the company to make direct communication with a state legislator.</p> <p><u>Executive</u>: Yes</p>	<p><u>Legislative</u>: A person must register if he or she receives or expends an aggregate of \$500 for lobbying in any reporting year.</p> <p><u>Executive</u>: A person must register if he or she receives more than \$1,000 for lobbying in any calendar year.</p>	<p><u>Legislative</u>: A person must register if he or she receives or expends an aggregate of \$500 for lobbying in any reporting year.</p> <p><u>Executive</u>: None</p>	None
Iowa  Category II	Encouraging the passage, defeat, approval, veto, or modification of legislation, a rule, or an executive order by the members of the general assembly, a state agency, or any statewide elected official.	No	Independent of the expenditure threshold, a person must register if he or she receives any compensation for lobbying.	Independent of the compensation threshold, a person must register if the person spends more than \$1,000 in a calendar year to communicate in person with legislative or executive branch officials for the purpose of lobbying.	None
Kansas  Category III	Lobbying means (1) promoting or opposing any action by the legislature on any legislative matter; or (2) entertaining any state officer or employee or giving any gift, honorarium or payment to a state officer or employee with an aggregate value of \$40	Yes	Independent of other thresholds, a person must register as a lobbyist if he or she is "employed in	Independent of other thresholds, a person must register as a lobbyist if the person spends \$1,000 or more in the aggregate,	None

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	<p>or more within any calendar year, if at any time during such year the donor has a financial interest in any contract with, or action, proceeding or other matter before the state agency in which such officer or employee serves. Please note that gifts provided under the second prong of the above definition of lobbying (<u>i.e.</u>, \$40 or more in gifts to an official) count toward the \$1,000 expenditure threshold for registering, as described in the column at right.</p> <p>Lobbying also includes promoting or opposing any action by an executive agency on any executive administrative matter (<u>i.e.</u>, any rule, regulation, utility ratemaking decision, agreement, contract, bid, procurement decision, lease, grant, award, loan, bond issue, certificate, license, permit, administrative order, or any other matter that is within the official jurisdiction or cognizance of an executive agency), or any action by a judicial agency on any judicial administrative matter (<u>i.e.</u>, judicial branch procurement).</p> <p>Lobbying does not include written communications by an employee of a private business seeking a contract solely for the purpose of describing such goods or services or communications made on behalf of a private business for the purpose of securing a grant, loan, or tax benefit under a state economic development program for the purpose of locating, relocating or expanding a private business within or into the state.</p>		considerable degree" for the purpose of lobbying, or if he or she is formally appointed as the primary representative of an organization to lobby in person on state property.	exclusive of personal travel and subsistence expenses, in any calendar year for lobbying. Gifts provided to public officials count toward this threshold. This threshold is aggregated across a company.	

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Kentucky  Category III	<p><u>Legislative:</u> Contacts made to promote, advocate, or oppose the passage, modification, defeat, or executive approval or veto of any legislation (including regulations that have been published and where the time for agency public hearing has expired) by direct communication with any member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the secretary of any cabinet, or any member of the staff of any such official.</p> <p><u>Executive Agency:</u> Attempting to influence by direct communication with an executive official or employee legislation or executive agency decisions (i.e., a decision of an executive branch agency regarding the expenditure of funds of the state or an executive branch agency with respect to the award of a contract, grant, lease, or other financial arrangement under which funds are distributed or allocated or the parameters of an RFI, RFP, or certain other forms of solicitation; drafting, implementing, or adopting a budget provision; administrative regulations or rules; or an executive order). Persons acting to promote, oppose, or otherwise influence the outcome of a decision of the Cabinet for Economic Development or any board or authority within or attached to the Cabinet relating to the issuance or award of a bond, grant, lease, loan, assessment, incentive inducement, or tax credit relating to a component of an economic incentive package are not required to register as lobbyists. However, the beneficiary of such economic incentive package must file a disclosure statement with the approving board or authority.</p>	<p><u>Legislative:</u> No. Registered employers must report the cost, paid by the employer or an affiliated person, for advertising which appears during a session of the General Assembly and which supports or opposes legislation, but such expenses do not trigger registration.</p> <p><u>Executive:</u> No</p>	<p><u>Legislative:</u> Any compensation for lobbying triggers registration.</p> <p><u>Executive:</u> Any compensation for lobbying triggers registration if the test at right is met.</p>	<p><u>Legislative:</u> None</p> <p><u>Executive:</u> None</p>	<p>An executive agency lobbyist must register if engaged to lobby as one of his main purposes regarding a substantial issue (i.e., making direct contact for the purpose of influencing an executive branch agency decision involving state funds of at least \$5,000 per year, or any budget provision, administrative regulation or rule, or legislative matter that financially impacts the lobbyist or employer).</p> <p>This threshold does not apply to placement agents and unregulated placement agents, who must register if they meet the definition of placement agent at left.</p>

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	Placement agents (i.e., an individual or firm who is compensated or hired by an employer or other real party in interest, for the purpose of influencing an executive agency decision regarding the investment of the Kentucky Retirement Systems, the County Employees Retirement System, or the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System assets) and unregulated placement agents (i.e., a placement agent who is prohibited by federal securities laws and regulations promulgated thereunder from receiving compensation for soliciting a government agency) are included in the definition of executive agency lobbyist.				
Louisiana  Category III	<p>Engaging in any direct act or communication with a legislator the purpose of which is to aid in influencing the passage or defeat of legislation, and preparation or research specifically intended for use in support of any such communication that is ongoing or planned, and conducting or attending a meeting to discuss direct communication with a legislator to influence legislation; any direct act or communication with an executive branch official the purpose of which is to aid in influencing executive branch action (<u>e.g.</u>, the decision to enter into a contract).</p> <p>Local lobbying is any direct act or communication with a local government official, the purpose of which is to aid in influencing a local government action (<u>i.e.</u>, any act by a local government agency or</p>	No	For legislative lobbying only, a person must register and report as a lobbyist if that person is engaged or employed to act in a representative capacity to lobby if lobbying constitutes one of the principal duties of employment/engagement, i.e., lobbying is expected to constitute 20% or more of a person's time in fulfilling the terms of	For legislative lobbying, a person must register and report as a lobbyist if he or she lobbies in a representative capacity and makes any expenditure. For executive lobbying, a person must register and report as a lobbyist if he or she acts in a representative capacity and makes any expenditure. For local lobbying, an individual must register and report as a lobbyist if he or she	



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	official in the nature of policymaking, rulemaking, adjudication, licensing, regulation, or enforcement; relative to contracts, RFPs, development of specifications, or engaging another person to perform a governmental function; to affect the passage, defeat, or implementation of any legislation; or to adopt, repeal, increase, or decrease any fee imposed on regulated persons).		an engagement or lobbying is expected to constitute 20% or more of a person's time per year in performing employment responsibilities.	acts in a representative capacity and makes expenditures in excess of \$500 in a calendar year.	
	Under a separate retirement system law, any person who has or is seeking a contract or other financial relationship with a state or statewide public retirement system must file semi annual expenditure reports with the Board of Ethics if expenditures of \$500 or more are made on behalf of Retirement System officials in a calendar year. Please note that registration is not required under this law.	N/A	N/A	A Company must file reports if it does or seeks to do business with a state or statewide retirement system and makes expenditures of \$500 or more in the aggregate on Retirement System officials in a calendar year.	A Company must file reports if it does or seeks to do business with a state or statewide retirement system and makes expenditures of \$500 or more in the aggregate on Retirement System officials in a calendar year.
Maine  Category I	Communicating directly with any official in the legislative branch or any official in the executive branch or with a constitutional officer for the purpose of influencing any legislative action or with the Governor or the Governor's cabinet and staff for the purpose of influencing the approval or veto of a legislative action.	Yes. Non-registered persons that expend in excess of \$2,000 in a calendar month for grassroots lobbying shall file a report by the 15th day of the month following the date on which the \$2,000 threshold was exceeded. Also, registered lobbyists must disclose grassroots expenditures in excess of \$2,000 in a calendar month.	A person must register if receives any compensation or reimbursement for expenditures for lobbying <u>and</u> if specifically employed for lobbying or a regular employee of another person and engages in lobbying in excess of eight (8) hours in any calendar month.	None	A person must register if receives any compensation or reimbursement for expenditures for lobbying <u>and</u> if specifically employed for lobbying or a regular employee of another person and engages in lobbying in excess of eight (8) hours in any calendar month.

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
		Salaries paid to an employer's employees are not grassroots expenditures for both lobbyists and non-lobbyists.			
Maryland  Category III	<p><u>Influencing Legislation and Regulations:</u> Lobbying includes influencing any legislative action (including the Governor's approval or veto of a bill) or the development or adoption of regulations or the development or issuance of an executive order by communicating with any legislative or executive branch official or employee: (A) in the presence of that official or employee (face-to-face); <u>or</u> (B) without being in the presence of that official or employee (<u>e.g.</u>, telephone conversations, written correspondence, etc.).</p> <p><u>Influencing Any Executive Action (including contracting):</u> Lobbying includes spending, in connection with influencing any executive action, a cumulative value of \$100 or more during a six-month reporting period on one or more executive branch officials or employees for gifts, including meals and special events.</p> <p><u>Influencing Procurement Executive Action (i.e., contracting):</u> Lobbying includes receiving compensation to influence executive action on a procurement contract that exceeds \$100,000. Bona fide salespersons and commercial selling agencies</p>	Yes (if at least \$2,000 is spent during a six-month reporting period for the purpose of soliciting others to communicate with any official).	<p><u>Influencing Legislation and Regulations:</u> Independent of the expenditure threshold, if face-to-face lobbying, must register if one receives at least \$2,500 in compensation for influencing legislative action or, separately, \$2,500 in compensation for influencing executive action in a six-month reporting period, separate and apart from expenditure threshold.</p> <p>If lobbying is <u>not face-to-face</u>, must register if one receives at least \$5,000 in compensation for influencing legislative action or, separately, \$5,000 in compensation for influencing executive action in a six-month</p>	<p><u>Influencing Legislation and Regulations:</u> Independent of the compensation threshold, if face-to-face lobbying, must register if expenses of at least \$500 are incurred for influencing legislative action or, separately, expenses of \$500 are incurred for influencing executive action in a six-month reporting period, exclusive of personal travel or subsistence expenses, separate and apart from compensation threshold.</p> <p><u>Influencing Any Executive Action (including contracting):</u> Independent of the other compensation and expenditure thresholds, one must register if one spends \$100 or more in a six-month reporting</p>	None

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
	<p>are exempt, as well as persons seeking to secure a business, grant, or loan for the purpose of locating, relocating, or expanding a business into the state.</p> <p>Though the lobby law does not apply locally, localities must adopt substantially similar lobby laws.</p>		<p>reporting period.</p> <p><u>Influencing Procurement Executive Action (i.e., contracting):</u> Independent of the expenditure threshold, a person must register if he or she receives compensation to influence executive action on a procurement contract that exceeds \$100,000. Bona fide salespersons are exempt.</p>	period on gifts, including meals, for executive branch officials.	
Massachusetts  Category III	<p>Lobbying means: any act to promote, oppose, influence or attempt to influence legislation or the governor's approval or veto thereof; any act to influence the decision of any officer or employee of the executive branch or an authority, where such decision concerns legislation or a standard, rate, rule or regulation; any act to communicate directly with a covered executive branch official to influence a decision concerning policy or procurement; or acts to influence or attempt to influence the decision of any city or town officer or employee when those acts are intended to carry out a common purpose with legislative or executive lobbying at the state level. Lobbying also includes strategizing, planning, and research if performed in connection with, or for use in, an actual communication with a government employee.</p>	Yes	Person must register if engages in lobbying for more than 25 hours <u>or</u> receives \$2,500 or more during any six-month reporting period for lobbying.	None	Any organization not employing a lobbyist which as part of an organized effort spends more than \$250 in a calendar year to lobby must file twice-yearly reports.

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
	Based on an advisory opinion, engaging in certain activities and communications with state and local officials regarding economic development incentives available under various state and local tax incentive plans, including the Massachusetts Economic Development Incentives Program (EDIP), do not require lobbyist registration when conducted within the confines and regulations of a statutorily defined program designed to promote business growth and economic development.				
Michigan  Category III	<p>Communicating directly with a public official for the purpose of influencing legislative action (including an executive branch official's approval, veto, or other action on any matter before the legislature) and/or administrative action (<u>i.e.</u>, any decision involving any executive branch agency rule or any nonministerial action, including contracting).</p> <p>Pursuant to a Michigan Secretary of State Interpretative Opinion, communications made by vendors regarding the purchase of specific products or services by an executive branch agency are not lobbying, unless the decision regarding such purchase requires the formation of policy or a judgment concerning the manner in which a particular policy should be applied.</p>	No	Independent of the expenditure threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he or she receives compensation or reimbursement in excess of \$650 for lobbying during any 12-month period.	Independent of the compensation threshold, a lobbyist employer must register if it spends in excess of \$2,575 for lobbying more than one public official, or \$650 for lobbying a single public official, during any 12-month period.	None

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Minnesota  Category II as to state actions or decisions; Category III as to official action of metropolitan governmental unit	Lobbying means attempting to influence legislative or administrative action or the official action of a metropolitan governmental unit by communicating with or urging others to communicate with public or local officials. Covered administrative action at the state level extends only to rulemaking. At the local level, lobbying includes any official decision.  Engaging only in selling goods or services to be paid for by public funds is not lobbying.	Yes	Independent of the expenditure threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he or she is engaged for pay of more than \$3,000 from all sources in any year for lobbying.	Independent of the compensation threshold, an individual must register as a lobbyist if he or she spends more than \$250 of his or her own money, not including the individual's own travel expenses, in any year, for lobbying.	None
Mississippi  Category III	Attempting to influence legislative action (including the Governor's approval or veto of a bill) or executive action ( <u>i.e.</u> , any decision by a state or local governmental entity involving a rule, regulation, order, decision, determination or other quasi-legislative action or proceeding) through oral or written communication; solicitation of others to influence legislative or executive action; or paying or promising to pay anything of value, directly or indirectly related to legislative or executive action.	Yes	A person must register as a lobbyist if he or she is employed and receives payments for the purpose of lobbying.	None	An individual is exempt from registration if such lobbying is not a primary or regular function of his or her employment and such individual expends less than \$200 in any calendar year for lobbying.
Missouri  Category III	Lobbying means attempting to influence the actions of the legislature, the executive branch, or any agency or commission of state government. The selling of goods or services to be paid for by public funds, provided that one is attempting to influence only the person authorized to authorize or enter into a contract to purchase the goods or services, is not lobbying.  Lobbying also includes attempting to influence any action by an elected official in a locality with an annual operating budget exceeding \$10 million.	No	<u>Executive:</u> Independent of the expenditure threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he or she lobbies in the course of his or her ordinary employment or is compensated for lobbying at the state level.	Independent of the compensation threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he or she makes total expenditures of \$50 or more during the calendar year for the benefit of a public official in connection with lobbying at the state level.	None

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
			<p><u>Legislative:</u> Independent of the expenditure threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he or she (1) is an in-house employee who acts in the ordinary course of employment, which primary purpose is to influence legislation on a regular basis, but excluding any person who lobbies on an occasional basis and not as a regular pattern of conduct, or (2) is a contractor who is compensated for lobbying at the state level.</p> <p>A local lobbyist must register as a lobbyist if he or she is employed specifically for the purpose of lobbying at the local level.</p>		

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Montana  Category I	Promoting or opposing the introduction or enactment of legislation before the legislature or legislators and promoting or opposing official action of any legislator or the legislature.	No	A person must register as a lobbyist if he or she engages in the practice of lobbying for hire (e.g., an employee of a principal who is paid a regular salary and whose duties include lobbying) and receives \$2,650 or more in a calendar year, excluding personal and necessary living expenses or non-reportable travel expenses.	A principal must register if it makes total payments of more than \$2,650 during a calendar year for the purpose of lobbying, even if no individual lobbyist reaches the lobbyist registration threshold described at left.	None
Nebraska  Category I	Lobbying means the practice of promoting or opposing the introduction or enactment of legislation or resolutions before the legislature, the committees, or members thereof or executive approval of legislation or resolutions.	Yes	Independent of any other threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he or she lobbies in the course of his or her ordinary employment and is paid a regular salary.	None	Independent of the compensation threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he or she engages in lobbying for another person.

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Nevada  Category I	Lobbying means communicating directly with a member of the legislative branch to influence legislative action.	No	A person must register for lobbying whether or not they are compensated, except for those who confine their lobbying activities to communicating directly with one or more members of the legislative branch only on an infrequent or irregular basis and who do not otherwise engage in any lobbying activities, unless those persons engage in a pattern of conduct that is substantially similar to engaging in lobbying activities on a recurrent or regular basis.	None	A person must register for lobbying whether or not they are compensated, except for those who confine their lobbying activities to communicating directly with one or more members of the legislative branch only on an infrequent or irregular basis and who do not otherwise engage in any lobbying activities, unless those persons engage in a pattern of conduct that is substantially similar to engaging in lobbying activities on a recurrent or regular basis.
New Hampshire  Category III	To promote or oppose directly or indirectly (1) any legislation pending or proposed before the legislature, or (2) any action by the governor, governor and council, or any state agency, where such action concerns legislation or contracts pending or proposed before the general court, any pending or proposed administrative rule, or the procurement of goods or services that are being or may be purchased by the state.	No	A person must register if receives any compensation for lobbying.	None	None



JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
	Registration is not required for an owner or employee, of a business seeking to do business with the state or communicating with an executive branch official or employee, a state agency, or an administrative official of the general court regarding goods or services that are being or may be purchased by the state.				
New Jersey  Category III	<p>Attempting to influence legislation, regulation, or governmental processes (e.g., procedures for bidding or purchasing, rendition of administrative determinations, and development, negotiation, award, modification, or cancellation of public contracts) by direct or indirect communication with, or making expenditures for the benefit of, the legislature, the Governor's Office, or certain officers or staff members of the Executive Branch.</p> <p>Generally, a communication for a routine, ministerial matter is exempt (e.g., a communication to: make a contact as a salesperson for the sole purpose of selling goods or services, inquire about the delivery of services or materials pursuant to an existing contract, provide advice or perform services pursuant to an existing contract, or prepare documents and materials in response to an RFP or to participate at a bid conference after bid specifications have been established). However, there is a rebuttable presumption that such communications, if made with certain high-level state officials, are not exempt.</p>	Yes (reporting is triggered if more than \$2,500 is spent)	A person must register if receives any compensation for lobbying and such activities are more than isolated, exceptional, or infrequent in relation to usual employment duties (i.e., constituting less than 20 hours of the time spent working at his or her employment during a calendar year).	<p>For non-grassroots lobbying, a person must register if engages in lobbying by making expenditures for the benefit of a covered official.</p> <p>For grassroots lobbying only, making expenditures for the purpose of grassroots lobbying exceeding \$2,500 in the aggregate in any year triggers lobbyist reporting requirements. Also, expenditures for grassroots activities must be included in lobbyist and lobbyist employer reports.</p>	A person must register if receives any compensation for lobbying and such activities are more than isolated, exceptional, or infrequent in relation to usual employment duties (i.e., constituting less than 20 hours of the time spent working at his or her employment during a calendar year).

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
New Mexico  Category II	Lobbying means attempting to influence legislative action (including any legislative matter requiring or awaiting action by the Governor) or executive branch regulation or rulemaking.	Yes	Independent of the expenditure threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if: 1) he or she is compensated for the specific purpose of lobbying or 2) in the course of his or employment, he or she is engaged in lobbying on a substantial or regular basis.	Independent of the compensation threshold, an organization that expends more than \$2,500 in one calendar year to conduct an advertising campaign for the purposes of lobbying shall register as a lobbyist.	None
New York  Category III	Attempting to influence the introduction, passage, or defeat of legislation or resolution by the State Legislature, the approval or disapproval of legislation by the Governor, the outcome of a rule, regulation or rate-making proceeding by a state agency (including boards and commissions), the passage or defeat of a local law, ordinance or regulation by a municipality or subdivision thereof (including boards and commissions), or attempting to influence a procurement decision by a state or local entity or agency.  Jurisdictions with a population of 5,000 or less are not covered under the lobbying law.	Yes	Receive or expend more than \$5,000 during an annual period for lobbying activities.	Receive or expend more than \$5,000 during an annual period for lobbying activities.	None

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
North Carolina  Category III	Attempting to influence legislative or executive action (including a policy, guideline, request for proposal, procedure, regulation, or rule) through direct communication of any kind with legislators, legislative staff, or executive branch officials or employees or their immediate family; developing goodwill through communications, activities or relationship-building with such persons with the intent to influence legislative or executive action; or both.	No	Any compensation for the purpose of lobbying triggers registration. However, there is an exemption for an in-house employee who does not have any 30-day periods in which 5% of his or her actual duties include direct communication or 5% of his or her actual duties include developing goodwill.	None	None
North Dakota  Category I	Attempting to secure, in any manner whatsoever, directly or indirectly, the passage, amendment, or defeat of any legislation by the legislative assembly or the approval or veto of any legislation by the Governor, or attempting to influence decisions made by the legislative council or by an interim committee of the legislative council.	Yes	Any person who is "engaged" by any other person to lobby must register as a lobbyist.	None	None
Ohio  Category III	Ohio breaks down lobbyists into legislative branch, executive branch, and retirement system lobbying. Each has separate registration and reporting requirements.  <u>Legislative branch lobbying</u> means any efforts to influence the passage, defeat, executive approval, or veto of legislation by direct communication with any member of the legislature or its staff or certain executive branch officials or their staff.	No	<u>Legislative Branch Lobbying:</u> A person must register as a legislative agent if he or she is engaged ( <u>i.e.</u> , employed or retained for compensation) to actively advocate legislation as one of his or her main pur-	None	<u>Legislative Branch Lobbying:</u> A person must register as a legislative agent if he or she is engaged ( <u>i.e.</u> , employed or retained for compensation) to actively advocate legislation as one of his or her main purposes during at least a

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
	<p><u>Executive branch lobbying</u> means contacts made to influence the outcome of an executive agency decision by direct communication with executive agency officials or staff.</p> <p><u>Retirement system lobbying</u> means contacts made to influence the outcome of a retirement system decision regarding the investment of retirement system funds by direct communication with retirement system officials or staff.</p>		<p>poses during at least a portion of his time (<u>i.e.</u>, the person's direct communications constitute at least 5% of the total performance time for which the individual is compensated by the specific client on whose behalf he is advocating).</p> <p><u>Executive Branch Lobbying</u>: A person must register as an executive agency lobbyist if he or she is engaged (<u>i.e.</u>, employed or retained for compensation) to conduct executive branch lobbying as one of his or her main purposes on a regular and substantial basis (<u>i.e.</u>, the person has made direct communications with executive branch officials constituting at least 25% of the total performance time for</p>		<p>portion of his time (<u>i.e.</u>, the person's direct communications constitute at least 5% of the total performance time for which the individual is compensated by the specific client on whose behalf he is advocating).</p> <p><u>Executive Branch Lobbying</u>: A person must register as an executive agency lobbyist if he or she is engaged (<u>i.e.</u>, employed or retained for compensation) to conduct executive branch lobbying as one of his or her main purposes on a regular and substantial basis (<u>i.e.</u>, the person has made direct communications with executive branch officials constituting at least 25% of the total performance time for which the person is compensated).</p> <p><u>Retirement System</u></p>

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
			<p>which the person is compensated).</p> <p><u>Retirement System Lobbying:</u> A person must register as an retirement system lobbyist if he or she is engaged (<u>i.e.</u>, employed or retained for compensation) to conduct retirement system lobbying as one of his or her main purposes on a regular and substantial basis (<u>i.e.</u>, the person has made direct communications with retirement system officials constituting at least 25% of the total performance time for which the person is compensated).</p>		<p><u>Lobbying:</u> A person must register as an retirement system lobbyist if he or she is engaged (<u>i.e.</u>, employed or retained for compensation) to conduct retirement system lobbying as one of his or her main purposes on a regular and substantial basis (<u>i.e.</u>, the person has made direct communications with retirement system officials constituting at least 25% of the total performance time for which the person is compensated).</p>

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Oklahoma  Category III	<p>Lobbying means any oral or written communication on behalf of a lobbyist principal with a state officer or employee of an agency, a member or employee of the legislature, the governor or an employee of the governor, a member or employee of the corporation commission, or a member or employee of the judiciary with regard to the passage, defeat, formulation, modification, interpretation, amendment, adoption, approval or veto of any legislation, rule, regulation, executive order or any other program, policy, or position of the state government.</p> <p>We have received informal advice from the Oklahoma Ethics Commission that they do not consider ordinary procurement activities to be covered under the definition of lobbying unless they involve an attempt to influence the above (e.g., a policy). However, this advice is informal and should be reconfirmed before relying on it.</p>	No	A person must register as a lobbyist if he or she is employed or retained for compensation to perform services that include lobbying. Please note, however, that a person is not required to register if such lobbying activities are only incidental to, and not a significant part of, the services provided.	None	None
Oregon  Category I	Attempting to influence legislative action through oral or written communication with legislative officials, solicitation of others to influence or attempt to influence legislative action or attempting to obtain the goodwill of legislative officials.	Yes	An in-house person must register to lobby if the person receives compensation for lobbying and spends more than 24 hours or spends in excess of \$100 per calendar quarter for the purpose of lobbying.	An in-house person must register to lobby if the person receives compensation for lobbying and spends more than 24 hours or spends in excess of \$100 per calendar quarter for the purpose of lobbying.	An in-house person must register to lobby if the person receives compensation for lobbying and spends more than 24 hours or spends in excess of \$100 per calendar quarter for the purpose of lobbying.

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Pennsylvania  Category III	By statute, lobbying is attempting to influence legislative action (including a veto by the Governor), regulations, policy, executive orders, or procurement of supplies, services, or construction under the state procurement law. "Attempting to influence" includes direct or indirect communication, office expenses, and providing anything of value to a state official or employee for the purpose of advancing the interest of the lobbyist or his or her principal.	Yes	<p>Registration is required for lobbying on behalf of a principal for compensation. The following are exempt from registration and reporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An individual whose compensation for lobbying is \$3,000 or less during any calendar quarter</li> <li>• An individual lobbying on behalf of his or her employer who lobbies less than 20 hours during any calendar quarter</li> </ul> <p>A person who expends more than \$3,000 in a calendar quarter on lobbying must register and report as a principal.</p>	<p>Registration is required for lobbying on behalf of a principal for compensation. The following are exempt from registration and reporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An individual whose compensation for lobbying is \$3,000 or less during any calendar quarter</li> <li>• An individual lobbying on behalf of his or her employer who lobbies less than 20 hours during any calendar quarter</li> </ul> <p>A person who expends more than \$3,000 in a calendar quarter on lobbying must register and report as a principal.</p>	<p>Registration is required for lobbying on behalf of a principal for compensation. The following are exempt from registration and reporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An individual whose compensation for lobbying is \$3,000 or less during any calendar quarter</li> <li>• An individual lobbying on behalf of his or her employer who lobbies less than 20 hours during any calendar quarter</li> </ul> <p>A person who expends more than \$3,000 in a calendar quarter on lobbying must register and report as a principal.</p>

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Rhode Island  Category III	Lobbying means acting directly or soliciting others to act for the purpose of promoting, opposing, amending, or influencing any action or inaction by any member of the executive or legislative branch or a public corporation, except that participation in most administrative proceedings, including rulemaking, is exempt.	Yes	For an outside lobbyist, registration is required if an individual engages in lobbying as the appointed or engaged representative of another for compensation.	None	Registration is required for an in-house lobbyist who is an employee, officer, or director of a company whose job responsibilities include lobbying. However, a person appearing on behalf of their employer or an organization with which they are associated if the person's regular duties do not include lobbying or government relations is exempt.
South Carolina  Category II	To promote or oppose through direct communication with public officials or public employees the introduction or enactment of legislation before the general assembly or the committees or members of the general assembly, covered gubernatorial actions, covered agency actions, or consideration of the election or appointment of an individual to a public office elected or appointed by the general assembly.	No	None	None	A person who is employed, appointed, or retained, with or without compensation, by another person for the purpose of lobbying must register as a lobbyist. Exempt from registration are those individuals who receive no compensation for lobbying and who do not make aggregate expenditures for lobbying in excess of \$500 in a calendar year.



JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
South Dakota Category I	To promote or oppose passage of legislation or to promote or oppose passage of any special interest legislation (as distinct from interests of the whole people of the state).	Yes	A person who is "employed" to lobby must register as a lobbyist.	None	None
Tennessee Category III	Communicating, directly or indirectly, with any official in the legislative branch or executive branch for the purpose of influencing any legislative action or administrative action (i.e., rulemaking or other quasi-legislative actions, any non-ministerial action, or the making of any decision).  Communications by an incumbent or prospective contractor or vendor, or its employees, while engaged in selling or marketing to the state, by demonstrating or describing goods or services to be provided or by inquiring about specifications, terms, conditions, timing, or similar commercial information, are not lobbying. However, these incumbent and prospective state contractors and vendors and their employees, though not required to register as lobbyists, are subject to certain lobbyist restrictions. Lobbying also does not include communications with officials of the executive branch to influence the outcome of a decision related to the issuance or award of a bond, grant, lease, loan or incentive pursuant to the Department of Economic and Community Development code. Lobbying also does not include communications with officials of the executive branch to influence the outcome of a decision related to any component of an economic development incentive package.	Yes, for an organization that accepts compensation from others to engage in grassroots lobbying (an organization that engages in grassroots lobbying on its own behalf using only its own funds does not trigger registration, however).	A person who is compensated to lobby must register as a lobbyist; however, compensation does not include the salary or reimbursement of an individual whose lobbying is incidental to such person's regular employment.	None	None
Texas Category III	Lobbying means communicating directly with members or employees of the legislative or executive branches of state government to influence legis-	No (but a registered lobbyist must report grass roots ex-	Independent of any other threshold, a person must register as	Independent of any other threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he	Independent of any other threshold, a person must register as a lobbyist if he

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
	lation or administration action ( <u>i.e.</u> , rulemaking, licensing or any other agency matter) or to establish goodwill with the purpose of later communicating with the official or employee to influence legislative or administrative action.	penditures).	a lobbyist if he or she is compensated or reimbursed in excess of \$1,620 and spends more than 40 hours of his or her compensated time during a calendar quarter, not including reimbursements for a person's own travel, food, or lodging expenses, to lobby.	or she makes total expenditures in excess of \$810 during a calendar quarter, not including expenditures for a person's own travel, food, or lodging expenses, to lobby.	<p>or she is compensated or reimbursed in excess of \$1,620 and spends more than 40 hours of his or her compensated time during a calendar quarter, not including reimbursements for a person's own travel, food, or lodging expenses, to lobby.</p> <p>Please note that there is an exemption from the \$1,620 compensation threshold (though not from the \$810 expenditure threshold) for communications by an employee of a vendor of a product or service to a member of the executive branch concerning state agency purchasing decisions that do not exceed \$10 million; or in procurements that exceed \$10 million, if the compensation is not contingent on the outcome of any administrative action.</p>

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Utah  Category II as to state actions; Category III as to local and education actions	Communicating with a public official for the purpose of influencing the passage, defeat, amendment, or postponement of legislative action (including the Governor's approval or veto of legislation) or executive action.	No	A person must register to lobby if the person is employed or contracts for economic consideration to lobby, other than reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses.	None	None
	Under a separate local and education lobbying law, an individual is a local or education lobbyist if he or she is employed by a principal or contracts for economic consideration to communicate with a local or education official for the purpose of influencing a local or education action ( <u>e.g.</u> , a local or education ordinance, resolution, policy, rule, administrative action, or purchasing or contracting decision). Please note registration is not required under this law.	N/A	N/A	A local or education lobbyist must file (i) an expenditure report for any calendar quarter in which he or she makes an expenditure for the benefit of a local or education official, or (ii) a single report for a calendar year in which the lobbyist made no such expenditures.	A local or education lobbyist must file (i) an expenditure report for any calendar quarter in which he or she makes an expenditure for the benefit of a local or education official, or (ii) a single report for a calendar year in which the lobbyist made no such expenditures.

JURISDICTION	WHAT IS LOBBYING?	DOES GRASS-ROOTS LOBBYING TRIGGER REGISTRATION?	THRESHOLDS		
			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Vermont  Category II	Communicating orally or in writing with any legislator or administrative official for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action; solicitation of others to influence legislative or administrative action; an attempt to obtain the goodwill of a legislator or administrative official intended ultimately to influence legislative or administrative action; or activities sponsored by an employer or lobbyist on behalf of or for the benefit of members of an interest group, if a principal purpose of the activity is to enable such members to communicate orally with one or more legislators or administrative officials for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action or to obtain their goodwill.	Yes	Receive or expend more than \$500 in a calendar year for lobbying activities.	Receive or expend more than \$500 in a calendar year for lobbying activities.	None
Virginia  Category III	Influencing or attempting to influence executive or legislative action (including action by the Governor in approving or vetoing a bill) through oral or written communication with an executive or legislative official, or solicitation of others to influence an executive or legislative official. Executive action includes all functions that pertain to obtaining all goods, services, or construction on behalf of an executive agency, including description of requirements, selection and solicitation of sources, preparation and award of contracts, and all phases of contract administration where the stated or expected value of the contract is \$5 million or more.	Yes (in the context of, e.g., a general mass mailing); No (when it is communication between an association and its members)	Receive or expend more than \$500 in a calendar year for lobbying that is regularly part of job duties.	Receive or expend more than \$500 in a calendar year for lobbying that is regularly part of job duties.	Receive or expend more than \$500 in a calendar year for lobbying that is regularly part of job duties.

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			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Washington  Category II	Attempting to influence the passage or defeat of any legislation (including bills and resolutions pending approval by the Governor) by the legislature, or the adoption or rejection of any rule, standard, rate, or other legislative enactment of any state agency.	Yes, if a person spends in excess of \$1,400 in the aggregate within any 3-month period or \$700 in aggregate within any 1-month period on grassroots lobbying activity.	A person must register if compensated to lobby and if the person spends more than 4 days, or parts thereof, during any 3-month period on lobbying or spends more than \$35 during any 3-month period on State officials in connection with lobbying.	A person must register if the person is compensated to lobby and spends more than 4 days, or parts thereof, during any 3-month period on lobbying or spends more than \$35 during any 3-month period on State officials in connection with lobbying.	A person must register as a lobbyist if the person is compensated to lobby and spends more than 4 days, or parts thereof, during any 3-month period on lobbying or spends more than \$35 during any 3-month period on State officials in connection with lobbying.
West Virginia  Category II	Communicating with a government officer or employee to promote, advocate, oppose or otherwise attempt to influence the passage or defeat or the executive approval or veto of any legislation that may be considered or the adoption or rejection of any rule, regulation, legislative rule, standard, rate, fee, or other delegated legislative or quasi-legislative action to be taken or withheld by any executive department.	Yes, if grassroots lobbying program is addressed to the general public, a substantial portion is calculated primarily to influence legislation, and more than \$500 in the aggregate is expended within any 3-month period or \$200 in the aggregate within any 1-month period.	Any compensation triggers registration.	Expenditures in excess of \$150 in a calendar year in connection with lobbying trigger registration, regardless of whether compensation is received and regardless of employment by a lobbyist employer.	None

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			Compensation	Expenditure	Other
Wisconsin  Category II	Lobbying means attempting to influence legislative action or administrative action ( <u>i.e.</u> , any agency action involving rulemaking) by oral or written communication with any elective state official, agency official or legislative employee. Exemptions from registration include communications involving requests for information to an agency official or responding to an agency official's request for information.	No. (A lobbyist who is registered must disclose grassroots expenditures if the aggregate total exceeds \$500 per reporting period. However, grassroots lobbying activity does not in itself trigger registration.)	An employer must register if it employs an individual for compensation and, if the individual's duties are not limited exclusively to lobbying, makes lobbying communications on each of at least 5 days within a 6-month reporting period.	None	An employer must register if it employs an individual for compensation and, if the individual's duties are not limited exclusively to lobbying, makes lobbying communications on each of at least 5 days within a 6-month reporting period.
Wyoming  Category I	Attempting to influence legislation on behalf of any association, corporation, labor union, or any interest other than personal.	Yes	A person must register as a lobbyist if the person receives or has a reasonable expectation of receiving reimbursement or compensation for lobbying activity.	None	None

Lobby registration rules tend to fall into three categories. Those that require registration and reporting for:

- Category I legislative lobbying only (including executive approval or disapproval of legislation);
- Category II legislative lobbying and executive branch lobbying which is limited to influencing a rule, regulation, rate-making proceeding, or policy; and
- Category III legislative lobbying and executive branch lobbying which includes efforts to influence all non-ministerial official actions of the executive branch, including but not limited to the approval of financial arrangements on behalf of the governmental entity.

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