

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1576

By: Pettigrew

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to ethics; stating purpose; requiring legislators to report travel expenditures paid for by certain persons; setting a deadline for filing statement of travel expenditures; allowing an extension on the filing deadline under certain circumstances; requiring certain information to be contained in the statement of travel expenditures; providing a due date for the first report; setting forth the applicability of the rules; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. Rule 257:18-1-1 is hereby added to the Rules of the Ethics Commission, 74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Chapter 62, App., unless there is created a duplication in numbering, to read as follows:

Rule 257:18-1-1. General purpose and authority.

The purpose of this chapter is to require those persons elected to the legislative branch of state government to make certain disclosures of travel-related expenditures to demonstrate that fair and equitable treatment is given to all governmental decisions.

SECTION 2. Rule 257:18-1-2 is hereby added to the Rules of the Ethics Commission, 74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Chapter 62, App., unless there is created a duplication in numbering, to read as follows:

Rule 257:18-1-2. Reporting requirements.

(a) Legislators shall file with the Commission, by paper form, computer diskette, or electronic transmission, a statement of travel expenditures paid for by the following:

(1) the State of Oklahoma;

(2) a person who the legislator knows or should know is a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, provided that the following shall not be subject to this subsection:

(A) travel expenditures paid as a result of or arising out of employment by, or doing business with, a lobbyist or lobbyist principal; and

(B) travel expenditures paid by any director, stockholder, partner, agent, affiliate, member, employee or officer of a lobbyist principal as a result of a personal or casual relationship with the legislator;

(3) a person who the legislator knows or should know is seeking to do business or doing business with the governmental entity of which the state officer's office is a part; or

(4) a person who the legislator knows or should know has a substantial financial interest in actions or matters before or affecting the governmental entity of which the state officer's office is a part.

(b) Electronic filings shall be followed by delivering, faxing or mailing a signed paper copy of the statement received or postmarked by the date the report was due.

(c) This chapter shall not require the reporting of a campaign contribution that is permitted and reported.

SECTION 3. Rule 257:18-1-3 is hereby added to the Rules of the Ethics Commission, 74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Chapter 62, App., unless there is created a duplication in numbering, to read as follows:

Rule 257:18-1-3. Deadline for filing statements.

(a) The statement of travel expenditures must be filed by April 30 of each year, beginning the year immediately following the legislator's election to office.

(b) No individual shall be required to file more than one statement of travel expenditures in any calendar year.

SECTION 4. Rule 257:18-1-4 is hereby added to the Rules of the Ethics Commission, 74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Chapter 62, App., unless there is created a duplication in numbering, to read as follows:

Rule 257:18-1-4. Extension of filing deadline.

(a) Any person who is required to file a statement of travel expenditures shall be granted one thirty-day extension of time for filing such a statement. In order to effect the extension, a declaration of his or her intention to defer the filing of the statement of travel expenditures must be filed not more than ten (10) days before the date the statement of travel expenditures is due.

(b) All paper copies of statements of travel expenditures required to be filed pursuant to the requirements of this chapter shall be certified.

SECTION 5. Rule 257:18-1-5 is hereby added to the Rules of the Ethics Commission, 74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Chapter 62, App., unless there is created a duplication in numbering, to read as follows:

Rule 257:18-1-5. Information required.

(a) A statement of travel expenditures must contain full and complete information concerning the following:

(1) in the case of state-sponsored travel:

(A) the amount paid or reimbursed for in-state transportation;

- (B) the amount paid or reimbursed for in-state lodging;
- (C) the per diem amount received for in-state travel;
- (D) the amount paid or reimbursed for out-of-state transportation;
- (E) the amount paid or reimbursed for out-of-state lodging; and
- (F) per diem amount received for out-of-state travel;

(2) in the case of travel information required to be reported pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and paid for by a party other than the state:

- (A) the name and address of the person paying for in-state transportation and the amount spent;
- (B) the name and address of the person paying for out-of-state transportation and the amount spent;
- (C) the name and address of the person paying for in-state lodging and the amount spent;
- (D) the name and address of the person paying for out-of-state lodging and the amount spent;
- (E) the name and address of the person paying for meals associated with in-state travel and the amount spent; and
- (F) the name and address of the person paying for meals associated with out-of-state travel and the amount spent;

(3) the filer's position title and the district represented;

and

(4) the filer's term of office.

(b) Forms. The information shall be filed on forms prescribed by the Commission or utilizing form software provided by the Commission.

SECTION 6. Rule 257:18-1-6 is hereby added to the Rules of the Ethics Commission, 74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Chapter 62, App., unless there is created a duplication in numbering, to read as follows:

Rule 257:18-1-6. Effective date of this chapter.

Initial statements of travel expenditures filed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall cover the calendar year of 1997 and each year thereafter and shall be filed no earlier than January 1, 1998. Such statements shall be filed no later than the final dates for same as previously set forth in this chapter.

SECTION 7. Rule 257:18-1-7 is hereby added to the Rules of the Ethics Commission, 74 O.S. Supp. 1996, Chapter 62, App., unless there is created a duplication in numbering, to read as follows:

Rule 257:18-1-7. Applicability of rules.

The rules of this chapter are adopted pursuant to the Oklahoma Constitution, Article XXIX, Section 3 (B). The partial or total invalidity of any section or sections of this chapter, found by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall not affect the valid sections.

SECTION 8. This act shall become effective November 1, 1997.

46-1-5205

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