

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

HOUSE BILL HB2664:

Adair of the House

and

Hobson of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to ethics; amending 74 O.S. 2001, Section 4250, which relates to lobbyist registration; requiring payment of certain fees; providing for deposit of certain fees; defining term; requiring certain committees to register and pay certain fees; requiring annual registration by certain date; requiring certain reports to be filed; prohibiting renewal of registration under certain circumstances; amending 74 O.S. 2001, Section 4258, which relates to the Ethics Commission Fund; adding certain fees to be deposited into fund; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 4250, is amended to read as follows:

Section 4250. A. Every lobbyist shall be required to register with the Ethics Commission ~~on a lobbyist registration form during the month of January of each odd-numbered~~ no later than December 31 of each year or within five (5) days after engaging in lobbying on behalf of ~~a one or more lobbyist principal by whom the lobbyist was not employed or retained during January of an odd-numbered year~~ principals, and pay a registration fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). All monies collected from this registration fee shall be deposited with the State Treasurer to the credit of the Ethics Commission Fund.

B. Information contained on the lobbyist registration form shall be limited to the following:

1. The lobbyist's name and business address and telephone number;

2. The name and address of each lobbyist principal by whom the lobbyist is employed or retained; and

3. The date of the registration.

All registrations filed under this section shall be certified.

C. The registration of each lobbyist shall expire on December 31 of each ~~even-numbered~~ year unless the annual registration fee as set forth in subsection A of this section is paid. The registration fee shall be payable from December 1 through 31 of each year. A lobbyist expenditure report shall be due at this time if such report was not filed for the previous reporting period. If the lobbyist was previously unregistered, then the fee is due within five (5) days after engaging in lobbying. The provisions of this section must be complied with before the Ethics Commission can renew a lobbying registration.

D. Every lobbyist shall file a supplemental registration indicating any change in the information contained in the registration within twenty (20) days after the date of the change. A person who ceases to engage in lobbying shall file a written, verified statement with the Ethics Commission acknowledging the termination of activities. The notice shall be effective immediately upon filing.

E. All registrations filed under this section shall be public records and shall be made available for public inspection pursuant to the Open Records Act.

F. The Ethics Commission shall maintain registrations in a separate, alphabetical file and make such registrations available to the public for inspection.

G. A person who files a notice of termination pursuant to the provisions of subsection D of this section shall file the reports required pursuant to the Rules of the Ethics Commission for any

reporting period during which the person was registered at the time the notice of termination is effective.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4259 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section, "committee" means a political action committee or a party committee as defined in the rules of the Ethics Commission. Committee shall not include a candidate committee as defined in the rules of the Ethics Commission.

B. Any committee which accepts contributions or makes expenditures in excess of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) in the aggregate in this state in a calendar year shall file a statement of organization with the Ethics Commission no later than five (5) days after accepting such contributions or making such expenditures. Each statement of organization shall be accompanied by a registration fee in the amount of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

C. A new statement of organization shall be filed by a committee each year the committee continues its registration. Such statements shall be filed between January 1 and January 31 of each year and shall be accompanied by the registration fee as set forth in subsection A of this section. The registration fee shall be received no later than January 31 of each year.

D. Any campaign contribution and expenditure reports required to be filed by the rules of the Ethics Commission and which may not have been filed for the previous calendar year shall be filed by the committee at the same time the registration fee is paid. The Commission may not renew a registration until the committee is in compliance with the provisions of this section. A previously registered committee shall not accept contributions or make expenditures until such committee is in compliance with the provisions of this section.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 4258, is amended to read as follows:

Section 4258. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Ethics Commission to be designated the "Ethics Commission Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations and shall consist of all copying fees, lobbyist registration fees, and committee registration fees received by the Commission. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Commission for any expenses incurred in the implementation of this act. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of State Finance for approval and payment.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2004.

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