

Senate Bill 225

By: Senators Perdue of the 18th, Hill of the 4th, Johnson of the 1st, Cable of the 27th, Price of the 56th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 4 of Chapter 5 of Title 21, relating to lobbyist registration and reporting,
2 so as to provide for lobbyist registration and reporting for persons engaged in attempting to
3 influence state purchasing; to define terms; to provide for related matters; to repeal
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Article 4 of Chapter 5 of Title 21, relating to registration and regulation of lobbyists, is
8 amended by striking paragraphs (6) and (7) of Code Section 21-5-70, relating to definitions
9 applicable to said article, and inserting in their place new paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) to read
10 as follows:

11 "(6) 'Lobbyist' means:

12 (A) Any natural person who, for compensation, either individually or as an employee
13 of another person, undertakes to promote or oppose the passage of any legislation by
14 the General Assembly, or any committee thereof, or the approval or veto of legislation
15 by the Governor;

16 (B) Any natural person who makes a total expenditure of more than \$250.00 in a
17 calendar year, not including the person's own travel, food, lodging expenses, or
18 informational material to promote or oppose the passage of any legislation by the
19 General Assembly, or any committee thereof, or the approval or veto of legislation by
20 the Governor;

21 (C) Any natural person who as an employee of the executive branch or judicial branch
22 of state government engages in any activity covered under subparagraph (A) of this
23 paragraph;

24 (D) Any natural person who, for compensation, either individually or as an employee
25 of another person, undertakes to promote or oppose the passage of any ordinance or
26 resolution by a public officer specified under subparagraph (F) or (G) of paragraph (15)

1 of Code Section 21-5-3, or any committee of such public officers, or the approval or
2 veto of any such ordinance or resolution;

3 (E) Any natural person who makes a total expenditure of more than \$250.00 in a
4 calendar year, not including the person's own travel, food, lodging expenses, or
5 informational material to promote or oppose the passage of any ordinance or resolution
6 by a public officer specified under subparagraph (F) or (G) of paragraph (15) of Code
7 Section 21-5-3, or any committee of such public officers, or the approval or veto of any
8 such ordinance or resolution; ~~or~~

9 (F) Any natural person who as an employee of the executive branch or judicial branch
10 of local government engages in any activity covered under subparagraph (D) of this
11 paragraph; or

12 (G) Any natural person who, for compensation, either individually or as an employee
13 of another person undertakes to influence a public officer or public body in the
14 selection of a vendor to supply any goods or services to any state agency but does not
15 include a person solely on the basis that such person participates in preparing a written
16 bid, written proposal, or other document relating to a potential sale to a state agency.

17 (7) 'Public officer' means those public officers specified under subparagraphs (A)
18 through (G) of paragraph (15) of Code Section 21-5-3, as amended, except as otherwise
19 provided in this article and also includes any public officer or employee who has any
20 discretionary authority over, or is a member of a public body which has any discretionary
21 authority over, the selection of a vendor to supply any goods or services to any state
22 agency.

23 (8) 'State agency' means any agency, authority, department, board, bureau, commission,
24 council, corporation, authority, entity, or instrumentality of the state but does not include
25 a local political subdivision, such as a county, city, or local school district or an
26 instrumentality of such a local political subdivision."

27 SECTION 2.

28 Said article is further amended by adding at the end of Code Section 21-5-73, relating to
29 lobbyist disclosure reports, a new subsection (e) to read as follows:

30 "(e) The reports required by this Code section shall be in addition to any reports required
31 under Code Section 45-1-6, relating to required reports by state vendors of gifts to state
32 employees. Compliance with this Code section shall not excuse noncompliance with that
33 Code section, and compliance with that Code section shall not excuse noncompliance with
34 this Code section, notwithstanding the fact that in some cases the same information may
35 be required to be disclosed under both Code sections."

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SECTION 3.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.