

The Senate Rules Committee offered the following substitute to HB 142:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to ethics
2 in government, so as to change certain provisions relating to powers and duties of the
3 Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission; to change certain
4 provisions relating to definitions relative to public officers' conduct and lobbyist disclosure;
5 to change certain provisions relating to campaign disclosure reports; to change certain
6 provisions relating to filing by public officers, filing by candidates for public office, filing
7 by elected officials and members of the General Assembly, electronic filing, and transfer of
8 filings from the Secretary of State to the commission; to change certain provisions relating
9 to lobbyist registration requirements, application for registration, supplemental registration,
10 expiration, docket, fees, identification cards, public rosters, and exemptions; to regulate
11 certain contact between lobbyists and members of the General Assembly and the making or
12 acceptance of certain expenditures; to change certain provisions relating to lobbyist
13 disclosure reports; to amend Code Section 45-10-91 of the Official Code of Georgia
14 Annotated, relating to a method for addressing improper conduct by members of the General
15 Assembly, so as to change certain provisions relating to filing of complaints; to provide an
16 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

18 Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to ethics in
19 government, is amended in Code Section 21-5-6, relating to powers and duties of the Georgia
20 Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission, by revising paragraph (7)
21 of subsection (a) as follows:
22

23 "(7) To adopt in accordance with Chapter 13 of Title 50, the 'Georgia Administrative
24 Procedure Act,' such any rules and regulations as are specifically authorized in necessary
25 and appropriate for carrying out the purposes of this chapter; provided, however, that the
26 commission shall not require the reporting or disclosure of more information on any

27 report than is expressly required to be reported or disclosed by this chapter, unless such
 28 information was required to be reported or disclosed by rules and regulations of the
 29 commission which were in effect as of January 1, 2013, so long as such rules and
 30 regulations do not conflict with this chapter; and"

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 21-5-70, relating to definitions relative to
 33 public officers' conduct and lobbyist disclosure, by revising paragraph (1) as follows:

34 "(1) 'Expenditure':

35 (A) Means a purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, deposit, or conveyance
 36 of money or anything of value made for the purpose of influencing the actions of any
 37 public officer, specifically including any such transaction which is made on behalf of
 38 or for the benefit of a public employee for the purpose of influencing a public officer;

39 (B) Includes any other form of payment when such can be reasonably construed as
 40 designed to encourage or influence a public officer;

41 (B.1) Includes reimbursement or payment of ~~actual and reasonable~~ expenses provided
 42 to a public officer for transportation, travel, lodging, registration, food, or beverages;
 43 ~~and other activities related to attending a meeting or conference so as to permit such~~
 44 ~~public officer's participation in such meeting or conference;~~

45 (C) Includes any gratuitous transfer, payment, subscription, advance, or deposit of
 46 money, services, tickets for admission to athletic, sporting, recreational, musical
 47 concert, or other entertainment events, or anything of value, unless consideration of
 48 equal or greater than face value is received;

49 (D) ~~Notwithstanding division (x) of subparagraph (E) of this paragraph, includes food~~
 50 ~~or beverage consumed at a single meal or event by a public officer or public employee~~
 51 ~~or a member of the family of such public officer or public employee~~ Includes
 52 reimbursement or payment of expenses for recreational or leisure activities; and

53 (E) ~~The term shall~~ Does not include: anything defined in paragraph (4.1) of this Code
 54 section as a lobbying expenditure, the provisions of subparagraphs (A) through (D) of
 55 this paragraph notwithstanding."

56 "(4.1) 'Lobbying expenditure' means:

57 (i) ~~The value of personal services performed by persons who serve voluntarily~~
 58 ~~without compensation from any source;~~

59 (ii) ~~A gift received from a member of the public officer's family;~~

60 (iii) ~~Legal compensation or expense reimbursement provided to public employees~~
 61 ~~and to public officers in the performance of their duties;~~

- 62 ~~(iv)(A)~~ Promotional items generally distributed to the general public or to public
 63 officers and food and beverages produced in Georgia;
- 64 ~~(v)(B)~~ An award, plaque, certificate, memento, or similar item given in recognition of
 65 the recipient's civic, charitable, political, professional, or public service;
- 66 ~~(vi)(C)~~ ~~Legitimate salary, benefits, fees, commissions, or expenses associated with a~~
 67 ~~recipient's nonpublic business, employment, trade, or profession~~ Discounts, upgrades,
 68 memberships, or other accommodations extended by a business to a bona fide customer
 69 and which are generally made available to other similarly situated customers; or
 70 legitimate salary, benefits, fees, commissions, or expenses associated with a recipient's
 71 nonpublic business, employment, trade, or profession;
- 72 ~~(vii)(D)~~ Food, beverages, ~~and registration, or admission~~ at group events to which all
 73 members of an agency, as defined in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code Section
 74 21-5-30.2, are invited. ~~An~~ For purposes of this subparagraph, an agency shall also
 75 include the ~~Georgia~~ House of Representatives; and the ~~Georgia~~ Senate combined;
 76 ~~committees and subcommittees of such~~ and the governing body of each political
 77 subdivision of this state;
- 78 ~~(viii)(E)~~ Campaign contributions or expenditures as defined by Code Section 21-5-3
 79 and reported as required by Article 2 of this chapter; or
- 80 ~~(ix)~~ ~~A commercially reasonable loan made in the ordinary course of business;~~
- 81 ~~(x)~~ ~~Food, beverage, or expenses afforded public officers, members of their immediate~~
 82 ~~families, or others that are associated with normal and customary business or social~~
 83 ~~functions or activities; or~~
- 84 ~~(xi)~~ ~~Transportation unless a lobbyist arranges for or participates in such~~
 85 ~~transportation.~~
- 86 (F) Reimbursement or payment of actual and reasonable expenses provided to a public
 87 officer for admission, registration, travel, food, and lodging attributed to attending
 88 events, seminars, or educational programs at locations within the United States where
 89 attendance is related to the official duties of such public officer."

90 SECTION 3.

91 Said chapter is further amended by revising subsection (n) of Code Section 21-5-34, relating
 92 to campaign disclosure reports, as follows:

93 ~~"(n) The commission shall not require the reporting of any more information in a campaign~~
 94 ~~contribution disclosure report than is expressly required to be disclosed by this Code~~
 95 ~~section~~ Reserved."

96

SECTION 4.

97 Said chapter is further amended by revising subsection (g) of Code Section 21-5-50, relating
 98 to filing by public officers, filing by candidates for public office, filing by elected officials
 99 and members of the General Assembly, electronic filing, and transfer of filings from the
 100 Secretary of State to the commission, as follows:

101 "~~(g) The commission shall not require the reporting of any more information in a financial~~
 102 ~~disclosure statement than is expressly required to be disclosed by this Code section~~
 103 Reserved."

104

SECTION 5.

105 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 21-5-71, relating to lobbyist
 106 registration requirements, application for registration, supplemental registration, expiration,
 107 docket, fees, identification cards, public rosters, and exemptions, as follows:

108 "21-5-71.

109 (a)(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection and except as otherwise
 110 provided by subsection (i) of this Code section, no person shall engage in lobbying as
 111 defined by this article unless such person is registered with the commission as a lobbyist.

112 The commission shall not allow a person who has been convicted of a felony involving
 113 moral turpitude in the courts of this state or an offense that, had it occurred in this state,
 114 would constitute a felony involving moral turpitude under the laws of this state to become
 115 a registered lobbyist unless ten years or more have elapsed since the completion of the
 116 person's sentence. The administration of this article is vested in the commission.

117 (2) When a person is hired or retained as an employee or agent or independent contractor
 118 and under the agreement of the parties the primary duties, or a substantial part of the
 119 duties, of the person will involve lobbying activities, the person shall register as a
 120 lobbyist before commencing lobbying activities.

121 (3) When paragraph (2) of this subsection does not apply, there shall be a lookback
 122 period of each calendar month for determining whether the 10 percent test of paragraph
 123 (5) of Code Section 21-5-70 has been met. If at the end of any month the 10 percent test
 124 has been met during that month, the person shall register as a lobbyist within five days
 125 after the last day of that month and shall in his or her initial disclosure report include all
 126 prior lobbying expenditures in that calendar year.

127 (b) Each lobbyist shall file an application for registration with the commission. The
 128 application shall be verified by the applicant and shall contain:

129 (1) The applicant's name, address, and telephone number;

130 (2) The name, address, and telephone number of the person or agency that employs,
 131 appoints, or authorizes the applicant to lobby on its behalf;

- 132 (3) A statement of the general business or purpose of each person, firm, corporation,
133 association, or agency the applicant represents;
- 134 (4) If the applicant represents a membership group other than an agency or corporation,
135 the general purpose and approximate number of members of the organization;
- 136 (5) A statement signed by the person or agency employing, appointing, or authorizing
137 the applicant to lobby on its behalf;
- 138 (6) If the applicant is a lobbyist ~~within the meaning of subparagraph (G) or (H) of~~
139 ~~paragraph (5) of Code Section 21-5-70~~ attempting to influence rule making or purchasing
140 by a state agency or agencies, the name of the state agency or agencies before which the
141 applicant engages in lobbying;
- 142 (7) A statement disclosing each individual or entity on whose behalf the applicant is
143 registering if such individual or entity has agreed to pay him or her an amount exceeding
144 \$10,000.00 in a calendar year for lobbying activities; and
- 145 (8) A statement verifying that the applicant has not been convicted of a felony involving
146 moral turpitude in the courts of this state or an offense that, had it occurred in this state,
147 would constitute a felony involving moral turpitude under the laws of this state or, if the
148 applicant has been so convicted, a statement identifying such conviction, the date thereof,
149 a copy of the person's sentence, and a statement that more than ten years have elapsed
150 since the completion of his or her sentence.
- 151 (c) The lobbyist shall, ~~within seven days of~~ prior to any substantial or material change or
152 addition, file a supplemental registration indicating such substantial or material change or
153 addition to the registration prior to its expiration. Previously filed information may be
154 incorporated by reference. Substantial or material changes or additions shall include, but
155 are not limited to, the pertinent information concerning changes or additions to client and
156 employment information required by paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (6), and (7) and conviction
157 status required by paragraph (8) of subsection (b) of this Code section.
- 158 (d) Each registration under this Code section shall expire on December 31 of each year.
159 The commission may establish renewal procedures for those applicants desiring continuous
160 registrations. Previously filed information may be incorporated by reference.
- 161 (e) The commission shall provide a suitable public docket for registration under this Code
162 section with appropriate indices and shall enter promptly therein the names of the lobbyists
163 and the organizations they represent.
- 164 (f)(1) Each person registering under this Code section shall pay the registration fees set
165 forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection; provided, however, that a person who represents
166 any state, county, municipal, or public agency, department, commission, or authority
167 shall be exempted from payment of such registration fees.
- 168 (2) The commission shall collect the following fees:

169	(A) Annual lobbyist registration or renewal filed pursuant to this	
170	Code section, <u>including a lobbyist identification card issued pursuant</u>	
171	<u>to this Code section</u>	\$300.00
172	(B) Lobbyist supplemental registration filed pursuant to this Code	
173	section	10.00
174	(C) Each copy <u>replacement</u> of a lobbyist identification card issued	
175	pursuant to this Code section	20.00
176	(D)(i) For reports filed when the General Assembly is not in	
177	session, in addition to other penalties provided under this chapter,	
178	a late fee of \$275.00 shall be imposed for each report that is filed	
179	late. In addition, a late fee of \$1,000.00 shall be imposed on the	
180	fifteenth day after the due date for such report if the report has not	
181	been filed. A late fee of \$10,000.00 shall be imposed on the	
182	forty-fifth day after the due date for such report if the report has not	
183	been filed.	
184	(ii) The commission shall retain \$25.00 of the first late fee received	
185	for processing pursuant to the provisions of Code Section	
186	45-12-92.1.	
187	(E)(i) For reports filed when the General Assembly is in session, in	
188	addition to other penalties provided under this chapter, a late fee of	
189	\$275.00 shall be imposed for each report that is filed late. In	
190	addition, a late fee of \$1,000.00 shall be imposed on the seventh day	
191	after the due date for such report if the report has not been filed. A	
192	late fee of \$10,000.00 shall be imposed on the twenty-first day after	
193	the due date for such report if the report has not been filed.	
194	(ii) The commission shall retain \$25.00 of the first late fee received	
195	for processing pursuant to the provisions of Code Section	
196	45-12-92.1.	
197	(g) As soon as practicable after registering any such person, the commission shall issue to	
198	such person an identification card which shall have printed thereon the name of the	
199	lobbyist, a color photograph of the lobbyist, and the person or agency such lobbyist	
200	represents, provided that, when any such person represents more than one entity, such	
201	identification card shall have printed thereon the name of the registered person and the	
202	word 'LOBBYIST.' Each lobbyist while engaged in lobbying at the capitol or in a	
203	government facility shall display said identification in a readily visible manner.	

204 (h) The commission shall regularly publish in print or electronically public rosters of
 205 lobbyists along with the respective persons, firms, corporations, associations, agencies, or
 206 governmental entities they represent. During sessions of the General Assembly, the
 207 commission shall weekly report to the Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Secretary
 208 of the Senate, and the Governor those persons who have registered as lobbyists since the
 209 convening of the General Assembly. The commission shall be authorized to charge a
 210 reasonable fee for providing copies of the roster to the public.

211 (i) The registration provisions of this Code section shall not apply to:

212 (1) Any individual who ~~expresses~~ communicates personal views, interests, or
 213 professional opinions on that individual's own behalf; to any public officer of the
 214 executive or legislative branch of state government as specified in subparagraphs (A)
 215 through (E) of paragraph (22) of Code Section 21-5-3;

216 (1.1) An employee or independent contractor of a vendor who solely participates in
 217 soliciting a bid or in preparing a written bid, written proposal, or other document relating
 218 to a potential contract with a state or local government agency or a bona fide salesperson
 219 who sells to or contracts with a state or local government agency for goods or services,
 220 is not hired specifically to undertake influencing a public officer or state agency in the
 221 selection of a vendor to supply any goods or services to any state agency, and does not
 222 engage in other activities which would make such person a lobbyist;

223 (2) Any person who ~~appears before~~ is invited by a public agency or governmental entity
 224 to appear before a committee or at a hearing of such agency or entity, including but not
 225 limited to a committee of either chamber of the General Assembly or a joint committee
 226 thereof, for the purpose of giving testimony ~~when so long as~~ such person is ~~not otherwise~~
 227 required to comply with the registration provisions of this Code section clearly identifies
 228 himself or herself and the interested party on whose behalf he or she is testifying;

229 (3) Any ~~public employee of an agency appearing before a governmental entity~~
 230 ~~committee or hearing at the request of the governmental entity or any person who~~
 231 ~~furnishes~~ is invited to furnish information upon the specific request of a public agency
 232 or governmental entity, including but not limited to a committee of either chamber of the
 233 General Assembly or a joint committee thereof, so long as such person clearly identifies
 234 himself or herself and the interested party on whose behalf he or she furnishes such
 235 information;

236 (3.1) Any industry, subject matter, or business expert appearing before a public agency
 237 or governmental entity committee, including but not limited to a committee of either
 238 chamber of the General Assembly or a joint committee thereof, for the purpose of giving
 239 testimony or furnishing information when accompanied by a registered lobbyist

240 representing such industry or business or representing an association or trade group for
 241 such industry or business;
 242 (4) Any licensed attorney when representing a client in administrative proceedings or in
 243 civil litigation or criminal proceedings or appearing on behalf of a client in any
 244 adversarial proceeding before an agency of this state or any political subdivision of this
 245 state and any expert or staff employed by such attorney;
 246 (5) Any person employed or appointed by a lobbyist registered pursuant to this Code
 247 section whose duties and activities do not include lobbying;
 248 (6) Elected public officers or appointed public officials performing the official duties of
 249 their public office or position; and
 250 (7) Any public employee, aide, or intern who performs services at the direction of a
 251 member of the General Assembly including, but not limited to, drafting petitions, bills,
 252 or resolutions; attending the taking of testimony; collating facts; preparing arguments and
 253 memorials and submitting them orally or in writing to a committee or member of the
 254 General Assembly; and other services of like character intended to reach the reason of the
 255 legislators."

256 **SECTION 6.**

257 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

258 "21-5-72.1.

259 (a) No person who is required by the law of this state to register as a lobbyist shall meet
 260 at the state capitol, Coverdell Legislative Office Building, or other state government
 261 facility with any member of the General Assembly to discuss the promotion or opposition
 262 of the passage of any legislation by the General Assembly, or any committee of either
 263 chamber or a joint committee thereof, or the override of a veto unless such person either
 264 is wearing his or her valid official registered lobbyist badge or is a resident of the House
 265 or Senate district which such member represents.

266 (b)(1) No person who is registered as a lobbyist under Code Section 21-5-71 shall make
 267 any expenditure.

268 (2) No public officer shall with actual knowledge accept any expenditure from a person
 269 who is registered as a lobbyist under Code Section 21-5-71.

270 (3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection shall not apply if the Senate, House of
 271 Representatives, or other office, department, agency, branch of government, board,
 272 commission, authority, or governing body to or by which a public officer is elected,
 273 appointed, or employed has adopted an authorized rule, executive order, regulation,
 274 ordinance, or resolution which governs acceptance of expenditures by such public officer
 275 and his or her staff and which:

276 (A) Prohibits the public officer from accepting with actual knowledge a single
 277 expenditure with a value in excess of \$100.00 from a registered lobbyist or a single
 278 expenditure from a group of registered lobbyists with a value in excess of \$100.00;
 279 (B) Provides for enforcement of the acceptance limits specified in subparagraph (A)
 280 of this paragraph; and
 281 (C) Is made available to the public. It shall be sufficient for purposes of this
 282 subparagraph if the applicable office, department, agency, branch of government,
 283 legislative body, board, commission, authority, or governing body has a public Internet
 284 website and such document is published and maintained in a prominent place on such
 285 website.
 286 (c) Except as otherwise provided pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection (b) of this Code
 287 section, any violation of this Code section shall be subject to the penalties provided by
 288 subparagraph (b)(14)(C) of Code Section 21-5-6."

289 **SECTION 7.**

290 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 21-5-73, relating to lobbyist
 291 disclosure reports, as follows:

292 "21-5-73.

293 (a) Each lobbyist registered under this article shall file disclosure reports as provided for
 294 in this Code section in the electronic format specified by the commission.

295 (b) ~~A person who is a lobbyist pursuant to subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (5)~~
 296 ~~of Code Section 21-5-70 required to register under this article and lobbies to promote or~~
 297 ~~oppose the passage of any legislation by the General Assembly, or any committee of either~~
 298 ~~chamber or a joint committee thereof, or the approval or veto of legislation by the~~
 299 ~~Governor shall file a semimonthly disclosure report on the first and fifteenth day of each~~
 300 ~~month, current through the end of the preceding report, beginning January 15 and~~
 301 ~~continuing throughout the period that the General Assembly is in session.~~

302 (c) ~~A person who is a lobbyist pursuant to subparagraph (D) or (E) of paragraph (5) of~~
 303 ~~Code Section 21-5-70 required to register under this article and lobbies to promote or~~
 304 ~~oppose the passage of any ordinance or resolution by a public officer specified under~~
 305 ~~subparagraph (F) or (G) of paragraph (22) of Code Section 21-5-3, or any committee of~~
 306 ~~such public officers, or the approval or veto of any such ordinance or resolution shall:~~

307 (1) File a disclosure report, current through the end of the preceding month, on or before
 308 the fifth day of May, September, and January of each year instead of the reports required
 309 by subsections (b) and (d) of this Code section; and

310 (2) File such report with the commission, file a copy of such report with the election
 311 superintendent of each county involved if the report contains any lobbying expenditures

312 relating to county or county school district affairs, and file a copy of such report with the
 313 municipal clerk (or if there is no municipal clerk, with the chief executive officer of the
 314 municipality) of each municipality involved if the report contains any lobbying
 315 expenditures relating to municipal affairs or independent school district affairs.

316 (d) A person who is a lobbyist pursuant to ~~subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (F), (G), (H), (I),~~
 317 ~~or (J) of paragraph (5) of Code Section 21-5-70~~ required to register under this article and:

318 (1) Lobbies to promote or oppose the passage of any legislation by the General
 319 Assembly, or any committee of either chamber or a joint committee thereof, or the
 320 approval or veto of legislation by the Governor;

321 (2) As an employee of the executive branch or judicial branch of local government,
 322 lobbies to promote or oppose the passage of any ordinance or resolution by a public
 323 officer specified under subparagraph (F) or (G) of paragraph (22) of Code Section 21-5-3,
 324 or any committee of such public officers, or the approval or veto of any such ordinance
 325 or resolution;

326 (3) Lobbies to influence a public officer or state agency in the selection of a vendor to
 327 supply any goods or services to any state agency; or

328 (4) Lobbies to promote or oppose any matter before the State Transportation Board

329 shall file a monthly disclosure report, current through the end of the preceding period, on
 330 or before the fifth day of each month; provided, however, that such monthly reports shall
 331 not be filed during any period that the lobbyist files a semimonthly report pursuant to
 332 subsection (b) of this Code section.

333 (e) Reports of lobbying expenditures filed by lobbyists shall be verified and shall include:

334 (1) A description of all lobbying expenditures, ~~as defined in~~ described in subparagraphs
 335 (D) and (F) of paragraph (4.1) of Code Section 21-5-70, or the value thereof made on
 336 behalf of or for the benefit of a public officer or on behalf of or for the benefit of a public
 337 employee for the purpose of influencing a public officer by the lobbyist or employees of
 338 the lobbyist or by any person on whose behalf the lobbyist is registered if the lobbyist has
 339 actual knowledge of such lobbying expenditure. The description of each reported
 340 lobbying expenditure shall include:

341 (A) The name and title of the public officer or public employee, each reported
 342 separately; or, if the lobbying expenditure is simultaneously incurred for an identifiable
 343 group of public officers or public employees the individual identification of whom
 344 would be impractical, a general description of that identifiable group;

345 (B) The amount, date, and description of the lobbying expenditure and a summary of
 346 all spending classified by category. Such categories shall include ~~gifts~~, meals,
 347 ~~entertainment~~, lodging, ~~equipment~~, ~~advertising~~, travel, and ~~postage~~ tickets;

348 (C) The ~~provisions of Code Section 21-5-70 notwithstanding~~, aggregate lobbying
 349 expenditures described in ~~divisions (1)(E)(vii) and (1)(E)(x)~~ subparagraph (D) of
 350 paragraph (4.1) of Code Section 21-5-70 incurred during the reporting period; provided,
 351 however, that expenses for travel and for food, beverage, and lodging in connection
 352 therewith afforded a public officer or public employee shall be reported in the same
 353 manner as under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (D) of this paragraph;

354 (D) If applicable, the number of the bill, resolution, ordinance, or regulation pending
 355 before the governmental entity in support of or opposition to which the lobbying
 356 expenditure was made; and

357 (E) If applicable, the rule or regulation number or description of the rule or regulation
 358 pending before the state agency in support of or opposition to which the lobbying
 359 expenditure was made;

360 (2) For those who are ~~lobbyists within the meaning of subparagraph (G) of paragraph (5)~~
 361 ~~of Code Section 21-5-70~~ required to register under this article and lobby to influence a
 362 public officer or state agency in the selection of a vendor to supply any goods or services
 363 to any state agency, the name of any vendor or vendors for which the lobbyist undertook
 364 to influence the awarding of a contract or contracts by any state agency together with a
 365 description of the contract or contracts and the monetary amount of the contract or
 366 contracts; and

367 (3) For those who are ~~lobbyists within the meaning of subparagraph (H) of paragraph (5)~~
 368 ~~of Code Section 21-5-70~~ required to register under this article and lobby to promote or
 369 oppose the passage of any rule or regulation of any state agency, the name of the
 370 individual or entity for which the lobbyist undertook to influence the rule or regulation
 371 of a state agency.

372 (e.1) Lobbyist reports disclosing expenditures made pursuant to paragraph (3) of
 373 subsection (b) of Code Section 21-5-72.1 shall be made at the same times and in the same
 374 manner as provided by subsections (a) and (b) of this Code section for lobbying
 375 expenditures. Such reports shall be verified and shall include the amount, date, and
 376 description of each expenditure; the name of the public officer, staff member, or
 377 identifiable group to or for whom such expenditure was made; and the name of the person
 378 or entity on whose behalf such expenditure was made.

379 (f) The reports required by this article shall be in addition to any reports required under
 380 Code Section 45-1-6, relating to required reports by state vendors of gifts to public
 381 employees. Compliance with this Code section shall not excuse noncompliance with that
 382 Code section, and compliance with that Code section shall not excuse noncompliance with
 383 this Code section, notwithstanding the fact that in some cases the same information may
 384 be required to be disclosed under both Code sections.

385 (g) The electronic filing of any disclosure report required by this article shall constitute an
 386 affirmation that such report is true, complete, and correct.

387 (h) ~~The commission shall not require the reporting of any more information in a lobbyist~~
 388 ~~disclosure report than is expressly required to be disclosed by this Code section~~ Reserved.

389 (i) All lobbyists shall have a grace period of three business days in filing all disclosure
 390 reports."

391 **SECTION 8.**

392 Code Section 45-10-91 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to a method for
 393 addressing improper conduct by members of the General Assembly, is amended by revising
 394 subsection (a) as follows:

395 "(a) Any person may file a complaint with the clerical officer of the appropriate chamber
 396 alleging improper conduct involving a member of the General Assembly. Any employee
 397 may file a complaint with the clerical officer of the appropriate chamber alleging sexual
 398 harassment by a member of the General Assembly. The clerical officer shall designate the
 399 place where such complaints may be filed, provide instruction necessary to properly submit
 400 a complaint, and prescribe forms for such complainants. Complaints shall be submitted in
 401 writing and verified under oath to the best information, knowledge, and belief of such
 402 person. The complaint shall include a statement by the complainant as to whether or not
 403 in filing the complaint he or she is acting as an agent, paid or otherwise, for any other
 404 person. Any person who knowingly provides false information in executing a complaint
 405 under this Code section commits the offense of false swearing within the meaning of Code
 406 Section 16-10-71."

407 **SECTION 9.**

408 This Act shall become effective on January 1 next following the date this Act is approved by
 409 the Governor or becomes law without such approval.

410 **SECTION 10.**

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