
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 169 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY LAUGHLIN, EICHELBERGER, SCARNATI, YAW, ALLOWAY,
FOLMER, YUDICHAK, COSTA, SCHWANK, RESCHENTHALER, VULAKOVICH
AND AUMENT, JANUARY 20, 2017

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 20, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in lobbying disclosure, further
3 providing for registration, for reporting and for
4 registration fees, fund established, system and regulations.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 13A04(a), (d) and (e)(1), 13A05(a), (b)
8 (4), (6) and (8) and (d) and 13A10(c) of Title 65 of the
9 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

10 § 13A04. Registration.

11 (a) General rule.--Unless excluded under section 13A06
12 (relating to exemption from registration and reporting), a
13 lobbyist, lobbying firm or a principal must register with the
14 department electronically using the computerized filing system
15 developed by the department that is consistent with the purpose
16 of this chapter within ten days of acting in any capacity as a
17 lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal. Registration shall be
18 biennial and shall begin January 1, 2007.

1 * * *

2 (d) Amendments.--

3 (1) If there is a change of information required for the
4 registration statement under subsection (b)(1) or (2) or (c),
5 an amended registration statement shall be filed with the
6 department electronically using the computerized filing
7 system developed by the department that is consistent with
8 the purpose of this chapter within 14 days after the change
9 occurs.

10 (2) When there is a change in information required for
11 the registration statement under subsection (b)(3), an
12 amended registration statement shall be filed with the
13 department electronically using the computerized filing
14 system developed by the department that is consistent with
15 the purpose of this chapter within 14 days of the end of the
16 year in which the change occurs.

17 (e) Termination.--

18 (1) A lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal may terminate
19 registration by filing notice of termination with the
20 department[.] electronically using the computerized filing
21 system developed by the department that is consistent with
22 the purpose of this chapter.

23 * * *

24 § 13A05. Reporting.

25 (a) General rule.--A registered principal shall, under oath
26 or affirmation, file quarterly expense reports with the
27 department electronically using the computerized filing system
28 developed by the department that is consistent with the purpose
29 of this chapter no later than 30 days after the last day of the
30 quarter.

1 (b) Content.--

2 * * *

3 (4) A lobbying firm or a lobbyist not associated with a
4 lobbying firm shall sign the reports electronically submitted
5 by each principal for whom the lobbying firm or lobbyist is
6 registered to attest to the validity and accuracy to the best
7 of the attestor's knowledge. A lobbying firm or lobbyist may
8 attach a statement to the electronic report of a principal,
9 describing the limits of the knowledge of the lobbying firm
10 or lobbyist concerning the information contained in the
11 expense report.

12 * * *

13 (6) A lobbying firm or a lobbyist not associated with a
14 lobbying firm shall submit an expense report electronically
15 using the computerized filing system developed by the
16 department that is consistent with the purpose of this
17 chapter if during the reporting period the lobbying firm or
18 lobbyist engaged in lobbying which was not contained in any
19 expense report filed by a principal or principals
20 represented.

21 * * *

22 (8) A lobbying firm or a lobbyist not associated with a
23 lobbying firm shall submit a report electronically using the
24 computerized filing system developed by the department that
25 is consistent with the purpose of this chapter if the
26 lobbying firm or lobbyist engaged in lobbying on behalf of
27 any entity that is exempt under section 13A06(7), (8), (9) or
28 (10) (relating to exemption from registration and reporting).

29 * * *

30 (d) Thresholds for reporting.--An expense report required

1 under this section shall be filed electronically using the
2 computerized filing system developed by the department that is
3 consistent with the purpose of this chapter when total expenses
4 for lobbying exceed \$2,500 for a registered principal in a
5 reporting period. In a reporting period in which total expenses
6 are \$2,500 or less, a statement to that effect shall be filed[.]
7 electronically using the computerized filing system developed by
8 the department that is consistent with the purpose of this
9 chapter.

10 * * *

11 § 13A10. Registration fees; fund established; system;
12 regulations.

13 * * *

14 (c) Computerized filing system.--The department shall
15 implement a fully accessible system to accommodate the use of
16 computerized filing. [Each registrant shall elect on an annual
17 basis whether the registrant will file all of the documents
18 required by this chapter either electronically or on paper with
19 the department.] The department shall post all filings on its
20 publicly accessible Internet website within seven days of
21 receipt of the filing.

22 * * *

23 Section 2. This act shall take effect as follows:

24 (1) The amendment of 65 Pa.C.S. §§ 13A04(a), (d) and
25 (e)(1) and 13A05(a), (b)(4), (6) and (8) and (d) shall take
26 effect January 1, 2018.

27 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect
28 immediately.