

SENATE BILL NO. 634

October 30, 2025, Introduced by Senator ALBERT and referred to Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1978 PA 472, entitled

"An act to regulate political activity; to regulate lobbyists, lobbyist agents, and lobbying activities; to require registration of lobbyists and lobbyist agents; to require the filing of reports; to prescribe the powers and duties of the department of state; to prescribe penalties; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts,"

by amending section 5 (MCL 4.415), as amended by 1986 PA 83.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 5. (1) **"Governmental body" means a state legislative or**
2 **governing body, including a board, commission, committee,**
3 **subcommittee, authority, or council, that may, under the state**

1 constitution, a statute, or a rule, exercise governmental or
 2 proprietary authority or perform a governmental or proprietary
 3 function, or a lessee of the body that performs an essential public
 4 purpose and function under the lease agreement.

5 (2) "Influencing" means promoting, supporting, affecting,
 6 modifying, opposing, or delaying by any means, including the
 7 providing of or use of information, statistics, studies, or
 8 analysis.

9 (3) "Legislative action" means introduction, sponsorship,
 10 support, opposition, consideration, debate, vote, passage, defeat,
 11 approval, veto, delay, or an official action by an official in the
 12 executive branch or an official in the legislative branch on a
 13 bill, resolution, amendment, nomination, appointment, report, or
 14 any matter pending or proposed in a legislative committee or either
 15 house of the legislature. Legislative action does not include the
 16 representation of a person ~~who~~**that** has been subpoenaed to appear
 17 before the legislature or an agency of the legislature.

18 (4) ~~(2)~~ "Lobbying" means communicating directly with an
 19 official in the executive branch of state government or an official
 20 in the legislative branch of state government for the purpose of
 21 influencing legislative or administrative action. Lobbying does not
 22 include the ~~providing~~**provision** of technical information by a
 23 person, other than a ~~person as defined in subsection (5)~~**lobbyist**
 24 **agent** or an employee of a ~~person as defined in subsection (5)~~ ~~when~~
 25 ~~appearing before~~**lobbyist agent, to** an officially convened
 26 legislative committee or executive department hearing panel. As
 27 used in this subsection, "technical information" means empirically
 28 verifiable data provided by a person recognized as an expert in the
 29 subject area to which the information provided is related.

~~(3) "Influencing" means promoting, supporting, affecting, modifying, opposing or delaying by any means, including the providing of or use of information, statistics, studies, or analysis.~~

~~(5) (4)~~ "Lobbyist" means any of the following:

(a) A person whose expenditures for lobbying are more than \$1,000.00 in value in any 12-month period. **For the purpose of this subdivision and subdivision (b), groups of 25 or more people shall not have their personal expenditures for food, travel, and beverage included if those expenditures are not reimbursed by a lobbyist or lobbyist agent.**

(b) A person whose expenditures for lobbying are more than \$250.00 in value in any 12-month period, if the amount is expended on lobbying a single public official.

~~(c) For the purpose of subdivisions (a) and (b), groups of 25 or more people shall not have their personal expenditures for food, travel, and beverage included, providing those expenditures are not reimbursed by a lobbyist or lobbyist agent.~~

~~(c) (d)~~ **This** state or a political subdivision ~~which of this state that~~ contracts for a lobbyist agent.

~~(6) (5)~~ "Lobbyist agent" means a person ~~who~~ **that** receives compensation or reimbursement of actual expenses, or both, in a combined amount in excess of \$250.00 in any 12-month period for lobbying.

~~(6) "Representative of the lobbyist" means any of the following:~~

~~(a) An employee of the lobbyist or lobbyist agent.~~

~~(b) For purposes of section 8(1)(b)(i) and 9(1)(b), a member of the lobbyist or employee of a member of the lobbyist, when the~~

~~lobbyist is a membership organization or association, and when the lobbyist agent or an employee of the lobbyist or lobbyist agent is present during any part of the period during which the purchased food or beverage is consumed.~~

~~(c) A person who is reimbursed by the lobbyist or lobbyist agent for an expenditure, other than an expenditure for food or beverage, which was incurred for the purpose of lobbying.~~

(7) Lobbyist or lobbyist agent does not include **any of the following:**

(a) A publisher, owner, or working member of the press, radio, or television while disseminating news or editorial comment to the general public in the ordinary course of business.

(b) All **state or local** elected or appointed public officials ~~of state or local government~~ who are acting in the course or scope of the office for no compensation, other than that provided by law for the office, **-not including any of the following:**

~~(c) For the purposes of this act, subdivision (b) shall not include:~~

(i) Employees of public or private colleges, community colleges, junior colleges, or universities.

(ii) Employees of townships, villages, cities, counties, or school boards.

(iii) Employees of state executive departments.

(iv) Employees of the judicial branch of government.

(c) ~~(d)~~ A member of a lobbyist, if the lobbyist is a membership organization or association, ~~and if the member of a~~ **the** lobbyist does not separately qualify as a lobbyist. ~~under subsection (4).~~

(8) "Mass mailing" means not less than 1,000 pieces of

substantially similar material mailed within a 7-day period.

(9) "Official in the executive branch" means ~~the any of the~~
following, but does not include an individual serving in a
clerical, non-policy-making, or nonadministrative capacity:

(a) **The** governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, or
 attorney general. ~~;-or-an~~

(b) **An** individual who is in the executive branch of state
 government and not under civil service. ~~;-a~~

(c) **A** classified director, chief deputy director, or deputy
 director of a state department. ~~This includes an~~

(d) **An** individual who is elected or appointed and has not yet
 taken, or an individual who is nominated for appointment to, any of
 the offices or agencies enumerated in this subsection. ~~An official~~
~~in the executive branch does not include a person serving in a~~
~~clerical, nonpolicy making, or nonadministrative capacity. In~~
~~addition to all of the foregoing, an official in the executive~~
~~branch includes all of the following:~~

(e) ~~(a)~~ In the executive office of the governor, the chief and
 deputy chief of staff, press secretary, director of job training,
 and director of personnel.

(f) ~~(b)~~ In the department of agriculture **and rural**
development, the racing commissioner and a member of the **commission**
of agriculture ~~commission~~ and rural development.

(g) ~~(c)~~ In the department of civil rights, a member of the
 civil rights commission.

(h) ~~(d)~~ In the department of civil service, a member of the
 civil service commission.

(i) ~~(e)~~ In the department of ~~commerce, the commissioner of~~
~~financial institutions,~~ **labor and economic opportunity, all of the**

1 following:

2 (i) The executive director of the Michigan state housing
3 development authority. 7

4 (ii) The director of the unemployment insurance agency.

5 (iii) The director of the Michigan occupational safety and
6 health administration.

7 (iv) The director of the workers' disability compensation
8 agency. and a

9 (v) A member of any of the ~~liquor control commission,~~
10 ~~strategic fund board,~~ following:

11 (A) The unemployment insurance appeals commission.

12 (B) The unemployment insurance agency.

13 (C) The Michigan state housing development authority. 7

14 (D) The Michigan travel commission. ~~7 or public service~~
15 ~~commission.~~

16 (E) The wage deviation board.

17 (F) The employment relations commission.

18 (G) The Michigan arts and culture council.

19 (j) ~~(f)~~ In the department of education, a member of the state
20 board of education ~~, higher education facilities commission, higher~~
21 ~~education facilities authority, higher education assistance~~
22 ~~authority, higher education student loan authority, or state tenure~~
23 ~~commission.~~

24 (k) ~~(g)~~ In the department of labor, ~~the director of the bureau~~
25 ~~of workers' disability compensation, the director of the employment~~
26 ~~security commission, and licensing and regulatory affairs,~~ a member
27 of the **state** construction code commission, ~~employment relations~~
28 ~~commission, employment security board of review, employment~~
29 ~~security commission, or wage deviation board.~~ **utility consumer**

1 participation board, Michigan public service commission, or liquor
2 control commission.

3 (l) ~~(h)~~—In the department of ~~licensing and regulation, the~~
4 ~~state insurance commissioner, and financial services, the director~~
5 **of the department of insurance and financial services.**

6 (m) ~~(i)~~—In the department of **technology**, management and
7 budget, ~~the lottery commissioner, the director of the office of~~
8 ~~services to the aging, the director of the office of state employer~~
9 ~~, the chairperson of the crime victims compensation board, and a~~
10 ~~member of the council for the arts, state administrative board. 7~~
11 ~~state building authority, toxic substance control commission, or~~
12 ~~utility consumer participation board.~~

13 (n) ~~(j)~~—In the department of ~~natural resources, the supervisor~~
14 ~~of wells and a member of the air pollution control commission,~~
15 ~~natural resources commission, or water resources~~
16 ~~commission, environment, Great Lakes, and energy, the director of~~
17 **the department of environment, Great Lakes, and energy.**

18 ~~(k)~~—In the department of public health, ~~a member of the~~
19 ~~occupational health standards commission.~~

20 (o) ~~(l)~~—In the department of transportation, a member of the
21 aeronautics commission and a state transportation commissioner.

22 (p) ~~(m)~~—In the department of treasury, ~~a~~ **all of the following:**

23 (i) **The lottery commissioner.**

24 (ii) **A member of any of the hospital following:**

25 (A) **The Michigan** finance authority. 7

26 (B) **The Michigan** investment ~~advisory committee, or board.~~

27 (C) **The** state tax commission.

28 (D) **The** state building authority.

29 (q) In the department of health and human services, the

1 director of the department of health and human services and the
2 chairperson of the crime victim services commission.

3 (r) In the department of natural resources, the director of
4 the department of natural resources and a member of the natural
5 resources commission.

6 (s) In the Michigan department of lifelong education,
7 advancement, and potential, the director of the Michigan department
8 of lifelong education, advancement, and potential.

9 (10) "Official in the legislative branch" means a member of
10 the legislature, the auditor general, the deputy auditor general,
11 an employee of the **Michigan** consumer's council, the director of the
12 **Michigan** legislative retirement system, or any other employee of
13 the legislature other than an individual employed by ~~the~~**this** state
14 in a clerical or ~~nonpolicy-making~~**non-policy-making** capacity.

15 ~~(11) "Governmental body" means any state legislative or~~
16 ~~governing body, including a board, commission, committee,~~
17 ~~subcommittee, authority, or council, which is empowered by state~~
18 ~~constitution, statute, or rule to exercise governmental or~~
19 ~~proprietary authority or perform a governmental or proprietary~~
20 ~~function, or a lessee thereof performing an essential public~~
21 ~~purpose and function under the lease agreement.~~

22 (11) "Representative of the lobbyist" means any of the
23 following:

24 (a) An employee of the lobbyist or lobbyist agent.

25 (b) For purposes of sections 8(1)(b)(i) and 9(1)(b), a member
26 of the lobbyist or employee of a member of the lobbyist, if the
27 lobbyist is a membership organization or association and the member
28 or employee of the member is present during any part of the period
29 during which the purchased food or beverage is consumed.

1 (c) A person that is reimbursed by the lobbyist or lobbyist
2 agent for an expenditure, other than an expenditure for food or
3 beverage, that was incurred for the purpose of lobbying.

4 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
5 unless Senate Bill No. 631 of the 103rd Legislature is enacted into
6 law.