



REGULATION ON LOBBYING
ADOPTED BY THE
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
September 17, 2008

AUTHORITY: NRS 218.926 and 218.932

The Legislative Commission hereby adopts the following regulation concerning lobbyists. This regulation supersedes all previously adopted regulations on this subject.

1. In addition to providing for the registration of lobbyists during each legislative session, the Operations Manager of the Legislative Counsel Bureau shall provide for the registration of lobbyists before the beginning of each legislative session, including the collection of the appropriate registration fee and identification badges. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any fee paid before the legislature is convened is refundable, upon request, if the person does not act as a lobbyist during the session. Before refunding any prepaid fee for registration, the Operations Manager shall deduct \$20 to cover the cost of preparing the unused identification badge.

2. The fee for registering as a paid lobbyist is \$120. The fee for registering as a nonpaid lobbyist is \$20. The Legislative Counsel Bureau may use the fees so paid to defray the expense of issuing identification badges, administering the registration of lobbyists and providing lobbyists services. For the purposes of this subsection, a paid lobbyist is a person who receives compensation for appearing in person in the Legislative Building or any other building in which the legislature or any of its standing committees hold meetings and communicates directly with a member of the legislative branch on behalf of someone other than himself to influence legislative action. To be considered a paid lobbyist, the compensation paid need not be paid solely for the act of lobbying, but may be paid for other tasks in addition to lobbying. A nonpaid lobbyist is a person who receives no compensation for appearing in person in the Legislative Building or any other building in which the legislature or any of its standing committees hold meetings and communicates directly with a member of the legislature branch.

3. The photo identification badges for paid lobbyists have a blue background with **yellow lettering stating "PAID LOBBYIST"** within it and the badges for nonpaid lobbyists have a **blue background with white lettering stating "NON PAID LOBBYIST."** The badges have the name of the lobbyist. The photos are done by the Legislative Police and distributed by the Lobbyist Registration Office after the registration process. The fee for a second or subsequent identification badge is \$20.00 each.

4. All registrations must be in accordance with the provisions of NRS 218.918 and 218.920. The registration statement must be on forms developed by the Operations Manager. Registrants must declare persons who retain or employ them, all business associations or partnerships involving current legislators and the amount of involvement in political campaigns. Involvement in certain real estate transactions must be disclosed pursuant to NRS 218.571.

5. An employee of state government who is not required to register as a lobbyist solely because of the exclusion specified in paragraph (c) of subsection 2 of NRS 218.912 shall obtain a photo identification badge. The badge must be worn whenever the employee appears in the Legislative Building. The badges for state employees have a gray background and states **"STATE EMPLOYEE."** They are obtained, without charge, from the Legislative Police.

6. Monthly expenditure reports must be filed by all lobbyists whether expenditures have been made or not. Expenditures must always be identified by legislator, organization, event or person and categorized in the following manner:

- A. "Entertainment," which must include the expenditures for any intangible item such as a fee for a membership in a club, the price of admission to a theatrical performance or the cost of food or beverage. Entertainment includes the price paid for admission to a sporting event or other form of entertainment.
- B. "Party or similar event" hosted by the organization represented by the registrant.
- C. "Gifts and loans." These include money or service on anything of value provided to a legislator, organization, or any other person for benefit of a legislator or organization. "Gift" includes expenditures for any tangible item such as books, hardware, software for computers, plaques or flowers. "Gift" does not include a ticket for admission to a sporting event or other form of entertainment.
- D. "Other" expenditures which may include the separate meal costs of a guest of a legislator or the cost of a special purpose trip for a legislator.

7. All lobbyists must file monthly expenditure reports. Paid lobbyists will be charged \$10 per day for failure to file in a timely manner with a cap of a \$100.00 total penalty; however, a paid lobbyist who does not file a report or pay the penalty is subject to suspension or revocation of the lobbyist's registration. Nonpaid lobbyists are exempt from the \$10 per day late fee; however, a nonpaid lobbyist who does not file a report is subject to suspension or revocation of the lobbyist's registration.

8. If the Legislative Commission authorizes an audit or investigation of a registrant, the registrant must make available all books, accounts, claims, reports, vouchers, and other records pertaining to lobbying activities to the Legislative Auditor.

9. As used in this regulation, "organization" means any organization whose primary purpose is to provide support for legislators of a particular political party and house.