

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1415**

S.P. 558

In Senate, April 1, 2025

### **An Act to Expand Reporting Requirements for Legislators and Lobbyists**

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, GROHOSKI of Hancock, Representatives: BOYER of Poland, RIELLY of Westbrook, WARREN of Scarborough.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §1015-A, sub-§5, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2019, c. 534, §4, is  
3 amended to read:

4 A. The solicitation, acceptance, offer or gift of money or anything of value for bona  
5 fide social events hosted for nonpartisan, charitable purposes, including those subject  
6 to the reporting requirements in section 1016-H and Title 3, section 317, subsection  
7 1-B.

8 **Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §1016-H** is enacted to read:

9 **§1016-H. Behested payments**

10 When a person makes a behested payment of \$200 or more on behalf of a Legislator,  
11 the Legislator on whose behalf the payment was made shall file a statement with the  
12 commission no later than 45 days after the date the payment was made. The statement  
13 must disclose the name of the person who made the payment, the amount of the payment,  
14 the name of the organization to which the payment was made and the primary purpose of  
15 the organization. A behested payment does not include a contribution as defined in Title  
16 21-A, section 1012, subsection 2. For the purposes of this section, "behested payment"  
17 means a payment made to an organization for a legislative, governmental or charitable  
18 purpose at the suggestion or solicitation of, or made in coordination with, a member of the  
19 Legislature.

20 **Sec. 3. 3 MRSA §317, sub-§1-B** is enacted to read:

21 **1-B. Behested payments.** A lobbyist or lobbyist associate who makes a behested  
22 payment on behalf of a Legislator shall notify the Legislator no less than 5 days after the  
23 payment was made that the payment will be reported pursuant to this subsection. A lobbyist  
24 or lobbyist associate who makes a behested payment on behalf of a Legislator shall file a  
25 report pursuant to this subsection. A behested payment does not include a contribution as  
26 defined in Title 21-A, section 1012, subsection 2. For the purpose of this subsection,  
27 "behested payment" means a payment made to an organization for a legislative,  
28 governmental or charitable purpose at the suggestion or solicitation of, or made in  
29 coordination with, a member of the Legislature.

30 A. A report under this subsection is required for:

31 (1) Behested payments made by the lobbyist or lobbyist associate to any one  
32 organization in a calendar year totaling \$200 or more; and

33 (2) Behested payments made by the lobbyist or lobbyist associate to one or more  
34 organizations in a calendar year totaling \$400 or more.

35 B. The report must include:

36 (1) The date of the payment or payments;

37 (2) The name and address of the lobbyist, lobbyist associate or lobbying firm;

38 (3) The name of the Legislator on whose behalf the payment was made; and

39 (4) The name of the organization to which the payment was made and the primary  
40 purpose of the organization.

C. A report under this subsection is due no later than 11:59 p.m. on the 15th calendar day of the month following the month in which the behested payment was made.

## SUMMARY

This bill requires lobbyists and Legislators to report behested payments to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. Under the bill, behested payments are payments made by a lobbyist or other person to an organization for a legislative, governmental or charitable purpose at the suggestion or solicitation of, or made in coordination with, a member of the Legislature.