

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(AFTER DEADLINE)  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

NO. 2656

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H.P. 1961 House of Representatives, May 4, 1988  
Approved for introduction by a majority of the  
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk  
Presented by Representative CARROLL of Gray.

Cosponsored by Representatives THISTLE of Dover-Foxcroft,  
STANLEY of Cumberland and Senator COLLINS of Aroostook.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT

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1 AN ACT to Clarify the Lobbyist Disclosure Law.  
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3 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as  
4 follows:

5 3 MRSA §317, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1987, c.  
6 816, Pt. KK, §5, is further amended to read:

7 2. Annual report. On or before January 30th  
8 following the end of the year in which any person

1 lobbied pursuant to section 313, the lobbyist and his  
2 employer shall file with the Secretary of State a  
3 joint report which shall contain the information  
4 required in subsection 1, except that the report shall  
5 summarize all lobbying activities for the calendar  
6 year and report in detail only those legislative  
7 actions not previously reported, as required by  
8 subsection 1, paragraphs H and I.

9 The reports required by subsection 1 shall be signed  
10 by the lobbyist. The reports required by this  
11 subsection shall be signed by both the lobbyist and  
12 employer.

13 If the date any report required by this section is due  
14 falls on a day other than a regular business day, the  
15 report shall be due on the first regular business day  
16 next following the due date.

17 In addition to the amounts identified in subsection 1  
18 as compensation received or expenditure made for the  
19 primary purpose of lobbying, this annual report shall  
20 also include the total amount of compensation received  
21 by the lobbyist or the lobbying firm, or expended by  
22 the employer, except compensation received or expended  
23 for purposes not directly related to lobbying.

24 STATEMENT OF FACT

25 The amendment to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title  
26 3, section 317, added by the 1988 appropriations act  
27 would not have produced the information intended,  
28 because the total to be reported was not restricted to  
29 legislative work. For example, lobbying firms that do  
30 extensive nonlegislative work for their clients would  
31 have been required to report fees received from the  
32 client for all the different types of work done, such  
33 as a marketing study in the case of a consulting firm,  
34 or title searches and contract drafting in the case of  
35 a law firm. Similarly, full-time employees who do  
36 work for their employers other than lobbying would  
37 have had to report their annual salaries. In neither  
38 case would the reports indicate the amount spent to

1 influence legislative action. Just as the present  
2 reports in some cases show less than the amount spent  
3 on legislative work, the appropriations bill amendment  
4 would have caused them to show more than the amount  
5 spent. The lobbyist disclosure law should be studied  
6 with a view toward defining more effectively the  
7 information sought.

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