

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1307

H.P. 983

House of Representatives, March 5, 2001

**An Act to Amend the Lobbyist Disclosure Procedures Laws
Administered by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election
Practices.**

Reported by Representative TUTTLE for the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 1007.

Reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 218.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

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

2
3 **Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §312-A, sub-§9**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 446,
4 Pt. A, §5, is further amended to read:

6 **9. Lobbying.** "Lobbying" means to communicate directly with
7 any official in the Legislature for the purpose of influencing
8 any legislative action or with the Governor for the purpose of
9 influencing the approval or veto of a legislative action when
10 reimbursement for expenditures or compensation is made for those
11 activities. It includes the time spent to prepare and submit to
12 the Governor, a Legislator or a legislative committee oral and
13 written proposals for, or testimony or analyses concerning, a
14 legislative action. It also includes the time spent traveling to
15 and from and waiting to make a presentation at any meeting with
16 the Governor, a Legislator or a legislative committee concerning
17 a legislative action for which the lobbyist or lobbyist associate
18 is compensated by an employer.

20 **Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §312-A, sub-§11-B** is enacted to read:

22 **11-B. Pecuniary benefit.** "Pecuniary benefit" means an
23 economic gain in any form except:

24 A. Economic advantage generally applicable to the public;

26 B. A meal, if the meal is provided by an industry or
27 special interest organization as part of an informational
28 program and the information relates to a matter that is
29 within the official duties of the recipients; or

32 C. Informational material, publications or subscriptions
33 related to the official duties of the recipient.

34 **Sec. 3. 3 MRSA §316, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 446,
35 Pt. A, §13 and affected by §20, is further amended to read:

38 **1. Names.** The name of the lobbyist, a list of the lobbyist
39 associates, the name of the person authorized by the lobbyist to
40 sign ~~the registration and~~ reports for the lobbyist and, the name
41 of the person employing the lobbyist and the principal officer of
42 the employer of the lobbyist if that employer is not an
43 individual;

44 **Sec. 4. 3 MRSA §317, sub-§1, ¶D-1** is enacted to read:

46 D-1. The specific dollar amount of compensation received
47 for the time spent traveling to and from and waiting to make
48 a presentation at a meeting with the Governor, a Legislator
49 or a legislative committee concerning a legislative action
50

2 benefit except as authorized by law. A violation of this section
3 is a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not more than \$200
4 may be adjudged.

6 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill amends the definition of "lobbying" and defines
9 the term "pecuniary benefit." The bill clarifies what names must
10 be included on registration forms. The bill also specifies that
11 the specific dollar amount of compensation received for the time
12 spent to make a presentation must be included in the monthly
13 session reports. The bill prohibits a lobbyist from giving,
14 offering or promising a contribution to the Governor, a member of
15 the Legislature or a constitutional officer while the Legislature
16 is in session.