

By Senator Mitchell

4-758A-99

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to ethics; requiring lobbyists
3 who request a state legislator to sponsor or
4 oppose a bill to make certain disclosures to
5 the Office of Legislative Services; prohibiting
6 state legislators from submitting a false or
7 improper expense voucher; providing a criminal
8 penalty; requiring the Office of Legislative
9 Services to notify the President of the Senate
10 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
11 when a legislator submits a false or improper
12 expense voucher; requiring state legislators to
13 file with the Commission on Ethics a list of
14 lobbyists, political committees, and committees
15 of continuous existence with which the
16 legislator intends to conduct business;
17 requiring a report to the commission of
18 personal income received from the business
19 relationship; providing an effective date.

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21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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23 Section 1. Every lobbyist who requests a state
24 legislator to sponsor or oppose a bill shall at the time of
25 such request disclose to the Office of Legislative Services
26 whether the bill would directly benefit a registered lobbyist,
27 political committee, or committee of continuous existence that
28 has contributed more than \$100 to the legislator's campaign.
29 The disclosure is a public record, and such information must
30 be maintained by the Office of Legislative Services and made
31 available upon request.

1 Section 2. It is unlawful for a state legislator to
2 submit a false or improper expense voucher for reimbursement
3 from public funds. A state legislator who is convicted of
4 submitting a false or improper expense voucher is guilty of a
5 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in
6 section 775.083, Florida Statutes. The Office of Legislative
7 Services shall notify the President of the Senate, the Speaker
8 of the House of Representatives, and the Ethics Commission
9 when a legislator submits false or improper expense vouchers
10 for taxpayer reimbursement.

11 Section 3. Every state legislator shall file with the
12 Commission on Ethics a list of every registered lobbyist,
13 political committee, and committee of continuous existence
14 with which the legislator intends to conduct business prior to
15 actually engaging in such business. A legislator who conducts
16 such business shall report annually to the commission all
17 sources of personal income from such business relationship.

18 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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21 SENATE SUMMARY

22 Requires lobbyists who request a state legislator to
23 sponsor or oppose a bill to disclose to the Office of
24 Legislative Services, if such action would benefit a
25 lobbyist, political committee, or committee of continuous
26 existence that contributed more than \$100 to the
27 legislator's campaign. Prohibits state legislators from
28 submitting a false or improper expense voucher. Provides
29 a criminal penalty. Requires the Office of Legislative
30 Services to notify the President of the Senate and the
31 Speaker of the House of Representatives when a legislator
submits a false or improper expense voucher. Requires
state legislators to file with the Commission on Ethics a
list of lobbyists, political committees, and committees
of continuous existence with which the legislator intends
to conduct business. Requires a report to the commission
of personal income received from the business
relationship.