CHAMBER ACTION

The State Administration Council recommends the following:

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Council/Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to ethics; amending s. 104.31, F.S.; prohibiting state or political subdivision employees from participating in political campaigns during on-duty hours or certain other hours; amending s. 112.313, F.S.; applying the prohibition on disclosure or use of certain information to former public officers, public employees, and local government attorneys; providing an exception to such prohibition; revising postemployment restrictions to apply to other-personal-services temporary employees; exempting certain agency employees from postemployment restrictions; providing for certain disclosure statements to be filed with the Commission on Ethics instead of the Department of State; revising a prohibition on lobbying by former local officers to preclude representation before the government body or agency an officer has served; providing applicability; amending s. 112.3144, F.S.; providing for reporting of assets held by joint tenancy, joint tenancy with right of survivorship, and partnership Page 1 of 28

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and reporting of certain liabilities; amending s. 112.3145, F.S.; requiring the commission to send delinquency notices with return receipt requested; amending s. 112.3147, F.S.; requiring an attestation with respect to information provided on required forms; deleting a redundant provision; amending s. 112.3148, F.S.; requiring gift disclosure forms of individuals who left office or employment during the calendar year to be filed by a date certain; allowing quarterly gift disclosure forms to be considered timely filed if postmarked on or before the due date; amending s. 112.3149, F.S.; requiring gift disclosure statements of individuals who left office or employment during the calendar year to be filed by a date certain; amending s. 112.317, F.S.; authorizing the commission to recommend restitution be paid to the agency damaged by the violation or to the General Revenue Fund; authorizing the Attorney General to collect certain costs and fees incurred in bringing certain actions; deleting a provision rendering a breach of confidentiality of an ethics proceeding a misdemeanor; amending s. 112.3185, F.S.; providing for certain former agency employees to be employed by or have a contractual relationship with certain business entities; prohibiting a former agency employee from representing a client before the employee's former agency in certain matters; amending s. 112.3215, F.S.; revising the commission's rulemaking authority regarding appeals of certain fines; providing for automatic suspended Page 2 of 28

registration for lobbyists who fail to timely pay a certain fine; providing an exception; requiring the commission to provide written notice to any lobbyist whose registration is automatically suspended; amending s. 112.322, F.S.; revising provisions relating to payment of witnesses; amending s. 914.21, F.S.; revising definitions; providing an effective date.

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

- Section 1. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 104.31, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3) and (4), respectively, and a new subsection (2) is added to said section, to read:
- 104.31 Political activities of state, county, and municipal officers and employees.--
- (2) An employee of the state or any political subdivision may not participate in any political campaign for an elective office while on duty or within any period of time during which the employee is expected to perform services for which he or she receives compensation from the state or political subdivision.
- Section 2. Subsections (8), (9), (12), and (14) of section 112.313, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 112.313 Standards of conduct for public officers, employees of agencies, and local government attorneys.--
- (8) DISCLOSURE OR USE OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.--No <u>current</u> or <u>former</u> public officer, employee of an agency, or local government attorney shall disclose or use information not

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available to members of the general public and gained by reason of his or her official position, except for information relating exclusively to governmental practices, for his or her personal gain or benefit or for the personal gain or benefit of any other person or business entity.

- (9) POSTEMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS; STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR LEGISLATORS AND LEGISLATIVE EMPLOYEES.--
- (a)1. It is the intent of the Legislature to implement by statute the provisions of s. 8(e), Art. II of the State Constitution relating to legislators, statewide elected officers, appointed state officers, and designated public employees.
 - 2. As used in this paragraph:
 - a. "Employee" means:

- (I) Any person employed in the executive or legislative branch of government holding a position in the Senior Management Service as defined in s. 110.402 or any person holding a position in the Selected Exempt Service as defined in s. 110.602 or any person having authority over policy or procurement employed by the Department of the Lottery.
- (II) The Auditor General, the director of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, the Sergeant at Arms and Secretary of the Senate, and the Sergeant at Arms and Clerk of the House of Representatives.
- (III) The executive director of the Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations and the executive director and deputy executive director of the Commission on Ethics.

(IV) An executive director, staff director, or deputy staff director of each joint committee, standing committee, or select committee of the Legislature; an executive director, staff director, executive assistant, analyst, or attorney of the Office of the President of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Party Office, Senate Minority Party Office, House Majority Party Office, or House Minority Party Office; or any person, hired on a contractual basis, having the power normally conferred upon such persons, by whatever title.

- (V) The Chancellor and Vice Chancellors of the State University System; the general counsel to the Board of Regents; and the president, vice presidents, and deans of each state university.
- (VI) Any person, including an other-personal-services temporary employee, having the power normally conferred upon the positions referenced in this sub-subparagraph.
- b. "Appointed state officer" means any member of an appointive board, commission, committee, council, or authority of the executive or legislative branch of state government whose powers, jurisdiction, and authority are not solely advisory and include the final determination or adjudication of any personal or property rights, duties, or obligations, other than those relative to its internal operations.
- c. "State agency" means an entity of the legislative, executive, or judicial branch of state government over which the Legislature exercises plenary budgetary and statutory control.

3. No member of the Legislature, appointed state officer, or statewide elected officer shall personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the government body or agency of which the individual was an officer or member for a period of 2 years following vacation of office. No member of the Legislature shall personally represent another person or entity for compensation during his or her term of office before any state agency other than judicial tribunals or in settlement negotiations after the filing of a lawsuit.

- 4. No agency employee shall personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the agency with which he or she was employed for a period of 2 years following vacation of position, unless employed by another agency of state government.
- 5. Any person violating this paragraph shall be subject to the penalties provided in s. 112.317 and a civil penalty of an amount equal to the compensation which the person receives for the prohibited conduct.
 - 6. This paragraph is not applicable to:
- a. A person employed by the Legislature or other agency prior to July 1, 1989;
- b. A person who was employed by the Legislature or other agency on July 1, 1989, whether or not the person was a defined employee on July 1, 1989;
- c. A person who was a defined employee of the State
 University System or the Public Service Commission who held such
 employment on December 31, 1994;

d. A person who has reached normal retirement age as defined in s. 121.021(29), and who has retired under the provisions of chapter 121 by July 1, 1991; $\frac{1}{100}$

- e. Any appointed state officer whose term of office began before January 1, 1995, unless reappointed to that office on or after January 1, 1995; or
- f. An agency employee whose position was transferred from the Career Service System to the Selected Exempt Service pursuant to chapter 2001-43, Laws of Florida.
- (b) In addition to the provisions of this part which are applicable to legislators and legislative employees by virtue of their being public officers or employees, the conduct of members of the Legislature and legislative employees shall be governed by the ethical standards provided in the respective rules of the Senate or House of Representatives which are not in conflict herewith.
- (12) EXEMPTION.--The requirements of subsections (3) and (7) as they pertain to persons serving on advisory boards may be waived in a particular instance by the body which appointed the person to the advisory board, upon a full disclosure of the transaction or relationship to the appointing body prior to the waiver and an affirmative vote in favor of waiver by two-thirds vote of that body. In instances in which appointment to the advisory board is made by an individual, waiver may be effected, after public hearing, by a determination by the appointing person and full disclosure of the transaction or relationship by the appointee to the appointing person. In addition, no person

shall be held in violation of subsection (3) or subsection (7) if:

- (a) Within a city or county the business is transacted under a rotation system whereby the business transactions are rotated among all qualified suppliers of the goods or services within the city or county.
- (b) The business is awarded under a system of sealed, competitive bidding to the lowest or best bidder and:
- 1. The official or the official's spouse or child has in no way participated in the determination of the bid specifications or the determination of the lowest or best bidder;
- 2. The official or the official's spouse or child has in no way used or attempted to use the official's influence to persuade the agency or any personnel thereof to enter such a contract other than by the mere submission of the bid; and
- 3. The official, prior to or at the time of the submission of the bid, has filed a statement with the <u>Commission on Ethics</u> Department of State, if the official is a state officer or employee, or with the supervisor of elections of the county in which the agency has its principal office, if the official is an officer or employee of a political subdivision, disclosing the official's interest, or the interest of the official's spouse or child, and the nature of the intended business.
- (c) The purchase or sale is for legal advertising in a newspaper, for any utilities service, or for passage on a common carrier.

(d) An emergency purchase or contract which would otherwise violate a provision of subsection (3) or subsection(7) must be made in order to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the citizens of the state or any political subdivision thereof.

- (e) The business entity involved is the only source of supply within the political subdivision of the officer or employee and there is full disclosure by the officer or employee of his or her interest in the business entity to the governing body of the political subdivision prior to the purchase, rental, sale, leasing, or other business being transacted.
- (f) The total amount of the transactions in the aggregate between the business entity and the agency does not exceed \$500 per calendar year.
- (g) The fact that a county or municipal officer or member of a public board or body, including a district school officer or an officer of any district within a county, is a stockholder, officer, or director of a bank will not bar such bank from qualifying as a depository of funds coming under the jurisdiction of any such public board or body, provided it appears in the records of the agency that the governing body of the agency has determined that such officer or member of a public board or body has not favored such bank over other qualified banks.
- (h) The transaction is made pursuant to s. 1004.22 or s. 1004.23 and is specifically approved by the president and the chair of the university board of trustees. The chair of the university board of trustees shall submit to the Governor and

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the Legislature by March 1 of each year a report of the transactions approved pursuant to this paragraph during the preceding year.

- (i) The public officer or employee purchases in a private capacity goods or services, at a price and upon terms available to similarly situated members of the general public, from a business entity which is doing business with his or her agency.
- (j) The public officer or employee in a private capacity purchases goods or services from a business entity which is subject to the regulation of his or her agency and:
- 1. The price and terms of the transaction are available to similarly situated members of the general public; and
- 2. The officer or employee makes full disclosure of the relationship to the agency head or governing body prior to the transaction.
- (14) LOBBYING BY FORMER LOCAL OFFICERS; PROHIBITION.--A person who has been elected to any county, municipal, special district, or school district office may not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the government governing body or agency of which the person served as was an officer for a period of 2 years after vacating that office.

Section 3. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 112.3144, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5), (6), and (7), respectively, paragraph (g) of present subsection (4) is amended, and a new subsection (4) is added to said section, to read:

112.3144 Full and public disclosure of financial interests.--

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(4) (a) The reported amount of assets valued in excess of \$1,000 on forms prescribed pursuant to this section which the reporting individual holds jointly with another person shall be based on the reporting individual's legal percentage of ownership in the property, except that assets held jointly, with right of survivorship, shall be reported at 100 percent of the value of the asset. For purposes of this subsection, a reporting individual is deemed to own an interest in a partnership which corresponds to the reporting individual's interest in the capital or equity of the partnership.

- (b)1. The reported amount of liabilities valued in excess of \$1,000 on forms prescribed pursuant to this section for which the reporting individual is jointly and severally liable shall be based upon the reporting individual's percentage of liability rather than the total amount of the liability. Debt secured by property owned by the reporting individual that is held jointly, with right of survivorship, shall be reported at 100 percent of the total amount owed.
- 2. A separate section of the form shall be created to provide for the reporting of the amounts of joint and several liability of the reporting individual not otherwise reported in subparagraph 1.
- (5)(4) Forms for compliance with the full and public disclosure requirements of s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution shall be created by the Commission on Ethics. The commission shall give notice of disclosure deadlines and delinquencies and distribute forms in the following manner:

(g) The notification requirements and fines of this subsection do not apply to candidates or to the first filing required of any person appointed to elective constitutional office or other position required to file full and public disclosure, unless the person's name is on the commission's notification list and the person received notification from the commission. The appointing official shall notify such newly appointed person of the obligation to file full and public disclosure by July 1. The notification requirements and fines of this subsection do not apply to the final filing provided for in subsection (6) (5).

- Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 112.3145, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 112.3145 Disclosure of financial interests and clients represented before agencies.--
- (6) Forms for compliance with the disclosure requirements of this section and a current list of persons subject to disclosure shall be created by the commission and provided to each supervisor of elections. The commission and each supervisor of elections shall give notice of disclosure deadlines and delinquencies and distribute forms in the following manner:
- (c) Not later than 30 days after July 1 of each year, the commission and each supervisor of elections shall determine which persons required to file a statement of financial interests in their respective offices have failed to do so and shall send delinquency notices by certified mail, return receipt requested, to such persons. Each notice shall state that a grace period is in effect until September 1 of the current year; that Page 12 of 28

no investigative or disciplinary action based upon the delinquency will be taken by the agency head or commission if the statement is filed by September 1 of the current year; that, if the statement is not filed by September 1 of the current year, a fine of \$25 for each day late will be imposed, up to a maximum penalty of \$1,500; for notices sent by a supervisor of elections, that he or she is required by law to notify the commission of the delinquency; and that, if upon the filing of a sworn complaint the commission finds that the person has failed to timely file the statement within 60 days after September 1 of the current year, such person will also be subject to the penalties provided in s. 112.317.

Section 5. Section 112.3147, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

112.3147 Forms.--

(1) All information required to be furnished by ss. 112.313, 112.3143, 112.3144, 112.3145, 112.3148, and 112.3149 and by s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution shall be on forms prescribed by the Commission on Ethics. Persons shall attest that the information disclosed on the forms and any attachments is true, accurate, and complete, in all material aspects, to the best of their knowledge.

(2) (a) With respect to reporting assets valued in excess of \$1,000 on forms prescribed pursuant to s. 112.3144 which the reporting individual holds jointly with another person, the amount reported shall be based on the reporting individual's legal percentage of ownership in the property, except that assets held jointly with the reporting individual's spouse shall

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be reported at 100 percent of the value of the asset. For purposes of this subsection, a reporting individual is deemed to own an interest in a partnership which corresponds to the reporting individual's interest in the capital or equity of the partnership.

- (b) 1. With respect to reporting liabilities valued in excess of \$1,000 on forms prescribed pursuant to s. 112.3144 for which the reporting individual is jointly and severally liable, the amount reported shall be based upon the reporting individual's percentage of liability rather than the total amount of the liability, except, a joint and several liability with the reporting individual's spouse for a debt which relates to property owned by both as tenants by the entirety shall be reported at 100 percent of the total amount owed.
- 2. A separate section of the form shall be created to provide for the reporting of the amounts of joint and several liability of the reporting individual not otherwise reported in paragraph (a).
- Section 6. Paragraph (d) of subsection (6) and subsection (8) of section 112.3148, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 112.3148 Reporting and prohibited receipt of gifts by individuals filing full or limited public disclosure of financial interests and by procurement employees.--

(6)

(d) No later than July 1 of each year, each reporting individual or procurement employee shall file a statement listing each gift having a value in excess of \$100 received by the reporting individual or procurement employee, either

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directly or indirectly, from a governmental entity or a directsupport organization specifically authorized by law to support a governmental entity. The statement shall list the name of the person providing the gift, a description of the gift, the date or dates on which the gift was given, and the value of the total gifts given during the calendar year for which the report is made. The reporting individual or procurement employee shall attach to such statement any report received by him or her in accordance with paragraph (c), which report shall become a public record when filed with the statement of the reporting individual or procurement employee. The reporting individual or procurement employee may explain any differences between the report of the reporting individual or procurement employee and the attached reports. The annual report filed by a reporting individual shall be filed with the financial disclosure statement required by either s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or s. 112.3145, as applicable to the reporting individual. The annual report filed by a procurement employee shall be filed with the Commission on Ethics. The report filed by a reporting individual or procurement employee who left office or employment during the calendar year covered by the report shall be filed by July 1 of the year after leaving office or employment at the same location as his or her final financial disclosure statement or, in the case of a former procurement employee, with the Commission on Ethics.

(8)(a) Each reporting individual or procurement employee shall file a statement with the Commission on Ethics <u>no later</u>

than on the last day of each calendar quarter, for the previous Page 15 of 28

calendar quarter, containing a list of gifts which he or she believes to be in excess of \$100 in value, if any, accepted by him or her, for which compensation was not provided by the donee to the donor within 90 days of receipt of the gift to reduce the value to \$100 or less, except the following:

1. Gifts from relatives.

- 2. Gifts prohibited by subsection (4) or s. 112.313(4).
- 3. Gifts otherwise required to be disclosed by this section.
 - (b) The statement shall include:
- 1. A description of the gift, the monetary value of the gift, the name and address of the person making the gift, and the dates thereof. If any of these facts, other than the gift description, are unknown or not applicable, the report shall so state.
- 2. A copy of any receipt for such gift provided to the reporting individual or procurement employee by the donor.
- (c) The statement may include an explanation of any differences between the reporting individual's or procurement employee's statement and the receipt provided by the donor.
- (d) The reporting individual's or procurement employee's statement shall be sworn to by such person as being a true, accurate, and total listing of all such gifts.
- (e) Statements shall be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the due date. However, any statement that is postmarked by the United States Postal Service by midnight of the due date shall be deemed to have been filed in a timely manner, and a certificate of mailing obtained from and dated by the United

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States Postal Service at the time of the mailing, or a receipt from an established courier company which bears a date on or before the due date, shall be proof of mailing in a timely manner.

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- $\underline{\text{(f)}}$ (e) If a reporting individual or procurement employee has not received any gifts described in paragraph (a) during a calendar quarter, he or she is not required to file a statement under this subsection for that calendar quarter.
- Section 7. Subsection (6) of section 112.3149, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 112.3149 Solicitation and disclosure of honoraria. --
- A reporting individual or procurement employee who receives payment or provision of expenses related to any honorarium event from a person who is prohibited by subsection (4) from paying an honorarium to a reporting individual or procurement employee shall publicly disclose on an annual statement the name, address, and affiliation of the person paying or providing the expenses; the amount of the honorarium expenses; the date of the honorarium event; a description of the expenses paid or provided on each day of the honorarium event; and the total value of the expenses provided to the reporting individual or procurement employee in connection with the honorarium event. The annual statement of honorarium expenses shall be filed by July 1 of each year for such expenses received during the previous calendar year. The reporting individual or procurement employee shall attach to the annual statement a copy of each statement received by him or her in accordance with subsection (5) regarding honorarium expenses paid or provided

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during the calendar year for which the annual statement is filed. Such attached statement shall become a public record upon the filing of the annual report. The annual statement of a reporting individual shall be filed with the financial disclosure statement required by either s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or s. 112.3145, as applicable to the reporting individual. The annual statement of a procurement employee shall be filed with the Commission on Ethics. The statement filed by a reporting individual or procurement employee who left office or employment during the calendar year covered by the statement shall be filed by July 1 of the year after leaving office or employment at the same location as his or her final financial disclosure statement or, in the case of a former procurement employee, with the Commission on Ethics.

Section 8. Subsections (1), (2), and (6) of section 112.317, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (7) and (8) are renumbered as subsections (6) and (7), to read:

112.317 Penalties.--

- (1) Violation of any provision of this part, including, but not limited to, any failure to file any disclosures required by this part or violation of any standard of conduct imposed by this part, or violation of any provision of s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution, in addition to any criminal penalty or other civil penalty involved, shall, pursuant to applicable constitutional and statutory procedures, constitute grounds for, and may be punished by, one or more of the following:
 - (a) In the case of a public officer:
 - 1. Impeachment.

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2. Removal from office.

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- 3. Suspension from office.
- 4. Public censure and reprimand.
- 5. Forfeiture of no more than one-third salary per month for no more than 12 months.
 - 6. A civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000.
 - 7. Restitution of any pecuniary benefits received because of the violation committed. The commission may recommend that the restitution penalty be paid to the agency of which the public officer was a member or to the General Revenue Fund of the state.
 - (b) In the case of an employee or a person designated as a public officer by this part who otherwise would be deemed to be an employee:
 - 1. Dismissal from employment.
 - 2. Suspension from employment for not more than 90 days without pay.
 - 3. Demotion.
 - 4. Reduction in salary level.
 - 5. Forfeiture of no more than one-third salary per month for no more than 12 months.
 - 6. A civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000.
 - 7. Restitution of any pecuniary benefits received because of the violation committed. The commission may recommend that the restitution penalty be paid to the agency by which such public employee was employed or of which such officer was deemed to be an employee or to the General Revenue Fund of the state.
 - 3. Public censure and reprimand.

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(c) In the case of a candidate who violates the provisions of this part or s. 8(a) and (i), Art. II of the State Constitution:

- 1. Disqualification from being on the ballot.
- 2. Public censure.
- 3. Reprimand.

- 4. A civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000.
- (d) In the case of a former public officer or employee who has violated a provision applicable to former officers or employees or whose violation occurred prior to such officer's or employee's leaving public office or employment:
 - 1. Public censure and reprimand.
 - 2. A civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000.
- 3. Restitution of any pecuniary benefits received because of the violation committed. The commission may recommend that the restitution penalty be paid to the agency of which such public officer was a member or deemed to be an employee or by which such public employee was employed or to the General Revenue Fund of the state.
- (2) In any case in which the commission finds a violation of this part or of s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution and the proper disciplinary official or body under s. 112.324 imposes recommends a civil penalty or restitution penalty, the Attorney General shall bring a civil action to recover such penalty. No defense may be raised in the civil action to enforce the civil penalty or order of restitution that could have been raised by judicial review of the administrative findings and recommendations of the commission by certiorari to the district

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court of appeal. The Attorney General shall be entitled to collect any costs, attorney's fees, expert witness fees, or other costs of collection incurred in bringing such action.

- (6) Any person who willfully discloses, or permits to be disclosed, his or her intention to file a complaint, the existence or contents of a complaint which has been filed with the commission, or any document, action, or proceeding in connection with a confidential preliminary investigation of the commission, before such complaint, document, action, or proceeding becomes a public record as provided herein commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- Section 9. Section 112.3185, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 112.3185 Additional standards for state agency employees
 Contractual services.--
 - (1) For the purposes of this section:
- (a) "Contractual services" shall be defined as set forth in chapter 287.
- (b) "Agency" means any state officer, department, board, commission, or council of the executive or judicial branch of state government and includes the Public Service Commission.
- (2) No agency employee who participates through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, or auditing or in any other advisory capacity in the procurement of contractual services shall become or be,

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while an agency employee, the employee of a person contracting with the agency by whom the employee is employed.

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- No agency employee shall, after retirement or termination, have or hold any employment or contractual relationship with any business entity other than an agency in connection with any contract in which the agency employee participated personally and substantially through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, rendering of advice, or investigation while an officer or employee. When the agency employee's position is eliminated and his or her duties are performed by the business entity, this subsection shall not prohibit him or her from an employment or contractual relationship with the business entity if the employee's participation in the contract during agency employment was limited to recommendation, rendering of advice, or investigation and if the agency head determines that the best interests of the state shall be served thereby and provides written approval of the employment or contractual relationship prior to the employee's employment or contractual relationship.
- (4) No agency employee shall, within 2 years after retirement or termination, have or hold any employment or contractual relationship with any business entity other than an agency in connection with any contract for contractual services which was within his or her responsibility while an employee. If the agency employee's position is eliminated and his or her duties are performed by the business entity, the provisions of this subsection may be waived by the agency head if the agency head determines that the best interests of the state shall be

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served thereby and provides written approval of the employment or contractual relationship prior to the employee's employment or contractual relationship.

- (5) The sum of money paid to a former agency employee during the first year after the cessation of his or her responsibilities, by the agency with whom he or she was employed, for contractual services provided to the agency, shall not exceed the annual salary received on the date of cessation of his or her responsibilities. The provisions of this subsection may be waived by the agency head for a particular contract if the agency head determines that such waiver will result in significant time or cost savings for the state.
- termination, represent or advise another person or entity,
 except the state, in any matter in which the employee
 participated personally in his or her official capacity through
 decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, rendering of
 advice, investigation, or otherwise while an employee. The term
 "matter" includes any judicial or other proceeding, application,
 request for a ruling or other determination, contract, claim,
 controversy, investigation, charge, accusation, arrest, or other
 particular action involving a specific party or parties.
- (7) No agency employee acting in an official capacity shall directly or indirectly procure contractual services for his or her own agency from any business entity of which a relative is an officer, partner, director, or proprietor or in which such officer or employee or his or her spouse or child, or any combination of them, has a material interest.

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(8) (7) A violation of any provision of this section is punishable in accordance with s. 112.317.

- (9) (8) This section is not applicable to any employee of the Public Service Commission who was so employed on or before December 31, 1994.
- Section 10. Paragraph (f) of subsection (5) of section 112.3215, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 112.3215 Lobbyists before the executive branch or the Constitution Revision Commission; registration and reporting; investigation by commission.--

(5)

- (f) The commission shall provide by rule the grounds for waiving the fine and the procedures a procedure by which a lobbyist who fails to timely file a report shall be notified and assessed fines and may appeal. The rule shall provide for the following:
- 1. Upon determining that the report is late, the person designated to review the timeliness of reports shall immediately notify the lobbyist as to the failure to timely file the report and that a fine is being assessed for each late day. The fine shall be \$50 per day per report for each late day up to a maximum of \$5,000 per late report.
- 2. Upon receipt of the report, the person designated to review the timeliness of reports shall determine the amount of the fine due based upon the earliest of the following:
- a. When a report is actually received by the lobbyist registration and reporting office.
 - b. When the report is postmarked.

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c. When the certificate of mailing is dated.

- d. When the receipt from an established courier company is dated.
- 3. Such fine shall be paid within 30 days after the notice of payment due is transmitted by the Lobbyist Registration Office, unless appeal is made to the commission. The moneys shall be deposited into the Executive Branch Lobby Registration Trust Fund.
- 4. A fine shall not be assessed against a lobbyist the first time any reports for which the lobbyist is responsible are not timely filed. However, to receive the one-time fine waiver, all reports for which the lobbyist is responsible must be filed within 30 days after the notice that any reports have not been timely filed is transmitted by the Lobbyist Registration Office. A fine shall be assessed for any subsequent late-filed reports.
- 5. Any lobbyist may appeal or dispute a fine, based upon unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file on the designated due date, and may request and shall be entitled to a hearing before the commission, which shall have the authority to waive the fine in whole or in part for good cause shown. Any such request shall be made within 30 days after the notice of payment due is transmitted by the Lobbyist Registration Office. In such case, the lobbyist shall, within the 30-day period, notify the person designated to review the timeliness of reports in writing of his or her intention to bring the matter before the commission.
- 6. The person designated to review the timeliness of reports shall notify the commission of the failure of a lobbyist Page $25\ \text{of}\ 28$

to file a report after notice or of the failure of a lobbyist to pay the fine imposed. The registration of a lobbyist who fails to timely pay a fine is automatically suspended until the fine is paid, unless an appeal of the fine is pending before the commission. The commission shall provide a written suspension notice to each lobbyist whose registration has been automatically suspended.

7. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120, any fine imposed under this subsection that is not waived by final order of the commission and that remains unpaid more than 60 days after the notice of payment due or more than 60 days after the commission renders a final order on the lobbyist's appeal shall be collected by the Department of Financial Services as a claim, debt, or other obligation owed to the state, and the department may assign the collection of such fine to a collection agent as provided in s. 17.20.

Section 11. Subsection (4) of section 112.322, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

112.322 Duties and powers of commission.--

(4) The commission has the power to subpoena, audit, and investigate. The commission may subpoena witnesses and compel their attendance and testimony, administer oaths and affirmations, take evidence, and require by subpoena the production of any books, papers, records, or other items relevant to the performance of the duties of the commission or to the exercise of its powers. The commission may delegate to its investigators the authority to administer oaths and affirmations. The commission may delegate the authority to issue Page 26 of 28

subpoenas to its chair, and may authorize its employees to serve any subpoena issued under this section. In the case of a refusal to obey a subpoena issued to any person, the commission may make application to any circuit court of this state which shall have jurisdiction to order the witness to appear before the commission and to produce evidence, if so ordered, or to give testimony touching on the matter in question. Failure to obey the order may be punished by the court as contempt. Witnesses shall be paid mileage and witnesses fees as authorized for witnesses in civil cases, except that a witness who is required to travel outside the county of his or her residence to testify shall be entitled to per diem and travel expenses at the same rate provided for state employees under s. 112.061, to be paid after the witness appears.

- Section 12. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 914.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 914.21 Definitions.--As used in ss. 914.22-914.24, the term:
- (3) "Official investigation" means any investigation instituted by a law enforcement agency or prosecuting officer of the state or a political subdivision of the state or any investigation conducted by the Florida Commission on Ethics.
 - (4) "Official proceeding" means:
 - (a) A proceeding before a judge or court or a grand jury;
 - (b) A proceeding before the Legislature; or
- 743 (c) A proceeding before a federal agency which is 744 authorized by law; or
 - (d) A proceeding before the Florida Commission on Ethics.

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746 Section 13. This act shall take effect October 1, 2005.

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