

By Senator Lawson

6-00820-09

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to limitations on the acceptance of  
 3           expenditures by members and employees of the  
 4           Legislature; amending s. 11.045, F.S.; exempting food  
 5           and beverage expenditures from the gift ban at certain  
 6           events; requiring that any such food and beverage  
 7           expenditures be consumed at the event; limiting the  
 8           total value of such expenditures; providing an  
 9           effective date.

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

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 13           Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
 14           11.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15           11.045 Lobbying before the Legislature; registration and  
 16           reporting; exemptions; penalties.—

17           (4) (a) Notwithstanding s. 112.3148, s. 112.3149, or any  
 18           other provision of law to the contrary, no lobbyist or principal  
 19           shall make, directly or indirectly, and no member or employee of  
 20           the Legislature shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly,  
 21           any expenditure, except for the following:

22           1. Floral arrangements or other celebratory items given to  
 23           legislators and displayed in chambers the opening day of a  
 24           regular session;—

25           2. Food or beverages at an event, meeting, or function held  
 26           for the sole purpose of providing information on legislative,  
 27           community, or governmental issues or having a specific education  
 28           component; or

29           3. Food or beverages associated with an organizational,

6-00820-09

20091506\_\_

30 governmental, professional, or public interest function or  
31 reception.

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33 Any allowable food or beverage expenditure must be consumed at  
34 the event, meeting, function, or reception and may not exceed a  
35 total value of \$20.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.