

SENATE/HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED ETHICS AND  
CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE BOARD  
BILL)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to permissible gifts from restricted donors  
2 to public officials, public employees, candidates, and  
3 immediate family members of such persons.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 68B.22, subsection 4, paragraph j, Code  
2 2016, is amended to read as follows:

3 j. Nonmonetary items with a value of ~~three~~ ten dollars or  
4 less that are received from any one donor during one calendar  
5 day.

6 Sec. 2. Section 68B.22, subsection 8, Code 2016, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 8. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, an  
9 organization or association which has as one of its purposes  
10 the encouragement of the passage, defeat, introduction,  
11 or modification of legislation shall not give and a member  
12 of the general assembly shall not receive food, beverages,  
13 registration, or scheduled entertainment with a per person  
14 value in excess of ~~three~~ ten dollars.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 This bill relates to permissible gifts from restricted  
19 donors to public officials, public employees, candidates, and  
20 immediate family members of such persons.

21 Under the gift law, a public official, public employee,  
22 candidate, or that person's immediate family members are  
23 prohibited from accepting, receiving, or soliciting a gift from  
24 a restricted donor, and a restricted donor is prohibited from  
25 offering or making such gift. The gift law makes permissible  
26 certain otherwise prohibited gifts if the gift falls under  
27 one of the listed exceptions provided in Code section 68B.22,  
28 subsection 4. One of the exceptions allows gifts from  
29 restricted donors if the gift is a nonmonetary item with a  
30 value of \$3 or less given by one restricted donor during one  
31 calendar day. The bill increases the limit to \$10.

32 Currently, except as otherwise provided, an organization or  
33 association which has as one of its purposes the encouragement  
34 of the passage, defeat, introduction, or modification of  
35 legislation is prohibited from giving and a member of the

1 general assembly is prohibited from receiving food, beverages,  
2 registration, or scheduled entertainment with a per person  
3 value in excess of \$3. The bill raises the per person value to  
4 \$10.

5 A knowing and intentional violation of the limit on the  
6 value of permissible gifts is a serious misdemeanor. A serious  
7 misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for no more than one  
8 year and a fine of at least \$315 but not more than \$1,875.

9 In addition, a person violating the limit on the value of  
10 permissible gifts is subject to civil penalties or disciplinary  
11 action issued by the ethics and campaign disclosure board or  
12 subject to disciplinary action taken by the ethics committees  
13 of the senate and house of representatives.