

House Study Bill 597 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
ETHICS BILL BY CHAIRPERSON
TAYLOR)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to governmental ethics and the regulation of
2 lobbyists and gifts.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 68B.2, subsection 13, paragraph b,
2 subparagraph (7), Code 2018, is amended to read as follows:

3 (7) An individual who is a member, director, trustee,
4 officer, or committee member of a business, trade, labor, farm,
5 professional, religious, education, or charitable association,
6 foundation, or organization who ~~either~~ is not paid compensation
7 ~~or~~ and is not specifically designated as provided in paragraph
8 "a", subparagraph (1) or (2).

9 Sec. 2. Section 68B.22, subsection 4, paragraph p,
10 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2018, is amended to read as
11 follows:

12 ~~Gifts of food~~ Food, beverages, travel, or lodging received
13 by a public official or public employee if all of the following
14 apply:

15 Sec. 3. Section 68B.22, subsection 4, paragraph s, Code
16 2018, is amended to read as follows:

17 *s.* ~~Gifts of food~~ Food, beverage, and entertainment received
18 at a function where every member of the general assembly has
19 been invited to attend, when the function takes place during
20 a regular session of the general assembly. A sponsor of a
21 function under this paragraph shall file a registration prior
22 to the function taking place identifying the sponsor and the
23 date, time, and location of the function. The registration
24 shall be filed with the person or persons designated by the
25 secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house and
26 with the board. After a function takes place, the sponsor of
27 the function shall file a report disclosing the total amount
28 expended, including in-kind expenditures, on food, beverage,
29 and entertainment for the function. The report shall be filed
30 with the person or persons designated by the secretary of the
31 senate and the chief clerk of the house and with the board
32 within twenty-eight calendar days following the date of the
33 function.

34

EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2 This bill relates to governmental ethics and the regulation
3 of lobbyists and gifts.

4 Currently, the definition of "lobbyist" includes eight
5 exceptions. One of the exceptions provides that a person is
6 not a lobbyist if the person is an individual who is a member,
7 director, trustee, officer, or committee member of a business,
8 trade, labor, farm, professional, religious, education, or
9 charitable association, foundation, or organization who either
10 is not paid compensation or is not specifically designated as
11 a lobbyist. The bill, in order for the exception to apply,
12 requires the person to both not be paid compensation and not be
13 specifically designated as a lobbyist.

14 The bill amends two exceptions to the gift law by eliminating
15 wording redundancies.