

HB 1500 -- Government Reform

Sponsor: Tilley

This bill changes the laws regarding ethics and lobbying. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Specifies that the crime of bribery of a public servant includes when the Governor or an agent of the Governor exchanges various appointed positions for an official vote on a public matter by a member of the General Assembly;

(2) Specifies that the crime of acceding to corruption by a public servant includes when a member of the General Assembly exchanges an official vote on a public matter for an appointment to certain positions;

(3) Prohibits a legislator and the legislator's spouse, dependent children, and parents from receiving compensation during the legislator's term of office for the legislator's actions as a paid political consultant for another legislator or a statewide elected official or committee as defined under the Campaign Finance Disclosure Laws, Chapter 130, RSMo;

(4) Prohibits members of the General Assembly from acting, serving, or registering as a legislative lobbyist under the Conflict of Interest and Lobbying Laws, Chapter 105, within 180 days of leaving office;

(5) Requires legislators, statewide elected officials, and their staff and employees to file a report regarding any paid political activity, including paid political consulting, in which they or any business entity in which they or their spouse, dependent children, or parent have any ownership interest have performed for a committee as defined under the Campaign Finance Disclosure Laws, Chapter 130;

(6) Requires the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tem of the Senate, and statewide elected officials to return contributions as defined under the Campaign Finance Disclosure Laws, Chapter 130, made by any person, the person's spouse, or any business in which the person or the person's spouse holds a substantial interest to any committee for the benefit of the legislator or statewide elected official during the four years immediately preceding that person's appointment to certain specified positions by the legislator or statewide elected official;

(7) Requires the Governor to disclose the name of all appointees, the amount and date of any contribution made by the

appointee to any committee during the four years immediately preceding the appointment. The disclosure must be included in the letter of transmittal to the Senate announcing the appointment, printed in the Senate journal, and accessible to the public on the Governor's and the Senate's web site;

(8) Prohibits the Governor from appointing legislators to certain positions until the member has been out of office for at least 180 days;

(9) Specifies that the definitions used in Section 105.470 regarding lobbying will apply to Section 105.456. Currently, the definitions only apply to Section 105.473;

(10) Adds a certificate or plaque in recognition of legislative service to the list of items that will not be considered a required reportable expenditure for a lobbyist;

(11) Allows a lobbyist to report the total expenditures for a meal provided to all members of the House of Representatives or Senate when the members are invited in writing by the lobbyist, but repeals the provisions which allow the reporting of total expenditures for members of a joint committee of the General Assembly, a standing committee of the House of Representatives or the Senate, or the majority or minority caucus of the House of Representatives or the Senate;

(12) Prohibits members of the General Assembly, statewide officials, and persons acting on their behalf or at their request from accepting any expenditure from a lobbyist as defined in Section 105.470;

(13) Adds members of the General Assembly and the staff and employees under their direct supervision, statewide officials and their staff and employees, and caucus staff to the list of individuals who must file a financial interest statement pursuant to Chapter 105;

(14) Prohibits statewide office holders from accepting or soliciting contributions or fund-raising activities from any person whom the statewide holder appoints with the advice and consent of the Senate, the appointee's spouse, or any business in which the appointee or the appointee's spouse holds a substantial interest during and for 180 days after the appointment ends;

(15) Prohibits persons appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, the appointee's spouse, or any business in which either of them holds a substantial interest from being solicited by a statewide office holder to make any contribution to or engage in fund-raising activities or events

for the statewide office holder during and for 180 days after the appointment ends;

(16) Prohibits persons and businesses from making a contribution of any kind to a candidate committee or state political party committee that makes expenditures on behalf of a statewide office holder or executive branch official when that person or business has certain matters requiring a decision or determination pending before the statewide office holder or executive branch official; and

(17) Prohibits statewide office holders from soliciting contributions from any person or business while that person or business has certain specified matters requiring a decision or determination pending before the statewide office holder or executive branch official.