

MAINE REVISED STATUTES
TITLE 3, CHAPTER 15: LOBBYIST DISCLOSURE PROCEDURES

3 § 311. Declaration of purpose

The Constitution of Maine guarantees the right of the people to petition their government for the redress of grievances and to freely express their opinions on legislation and issues. The Legislature reaffirms its obligation to hear the requests and opinions of all of the people, and to preserve and maintain the integrity and accessibility of the legislative process.

The Legislature recognizes that groups of citizens may choose one among them to present their views to Legislators, and, because of the amount and complexity of proposed legislation, may employ persons knowledgeable in the legislative process to present their views. Such activities are proper methods of expressing the opinion of a group of citizens.

The Legislature also recognizes that such activities must be carried out openly so that other citizens are aware of the opinions and requests made in this manner. Legislative decisions can fully reflect the will of all the people only if the opinions expressed by any citizen are known to all and debated by all, and if the representatives of groups of citizens are identified and their expenditures and activities are regularly disclosed.

Therefore, the Legislature declares that, in order to insure the full participation of all the people of the State in the legislative process, full disclosure of the identity, expenditures and activities of any persons who engage in professional lobbying is required. Such disclosure will insure the openness and integrity of the legislative process and encourage the expression of the will of all the people of the State.

3 § 312. Definitions (REPEALED)

3 § 312-A. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following words have the following meanings.

1. Campaign fund raising activity. “Campaign fund raising activity” means any event or solicitation by letter or any other means that is held for the purpose of receiving contributions for a political party, political committee, political action committee, candidate for political office in any primary or election, any elected official or a referendum committee.

1-A. Campaign contribution. “Campaign contribution” is a contribution, as defined in Title 21-A, section 1012, subsection 2.

2. Committee. “Committee” means any committee, subcommittee, joint or select committee of the Legislature or any special committee or commission, by whatever name, established by the Legislature to make recommendations for legislative action or to develop legislation.

2-A. Commission. “Commission” means the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices as defined in Title 1, Chapter 25.

3. Communicate. “Communicate” means the act of expressing, imparting or conveying information or impressions from one person to another, by either oral or written means.

4. Compensation. “Compensation” means anything of value that is received or to be received in return for, or in connection with, services rendered or to be rendered.

4-A. Covered official. “Covered official” means an official in the executive branch, an official in the legislative branch, a constitutional officer, the Governor and the Governor’s cabinet and staff.

4-B. Domestic partner. “Domestic partner” means the partner of an individual who:

- A. Is a mentally competent adult, as is the individual;
- B. Has been legally domiciled with the individual for at least 12 months;
- C. Is not legally married to or legally separated from another individual;
- D. Is the sole partner of the individual and expects to remain so; and
- E. Is jointly responsible with the individual for each other’s common welfare as evidenced by joint living arrangements, joint financial arrangements or joint ownership of real or personal property.

5. Employer. “Employer” means a person who agrees to reimburse for expenditures or to compensate a person who in return agrees to provide services. Employer includes any political action committee as defined in this section which communicates through or uses the services of a lobbyist to make campaign contributions or to influence in any way the political process.

6. Employment. “Employment” means an agreement to provide services in exchange for compensation or reimbursement of expenditures.

7. Expenditure. “Expenditure” means anything of value or any contract, promise or agreement to transfer anything of value, whether or not legally enforceable.

- A. **(REPEALED)**
- B. **(REPEALED)**
- C. **(REPEALED)**

7-A. Immediate family. “Immediate family” means a person's spouse or domestic partner and dependent children.

7-B. Indirect lobbying. “Indirect lobbying” means to communicate with members of the general public to solicit them to communicate directly with any covered official for the purpose of influencing legislative action, other than legislation that is before the Legislature as a result of a direct initiative in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 18, when that solicitation is made by:

- A. A broadcast, cable or satellite transmission;
- B. A communication delivered by print media; or
- C. A letter or other written communication delivered by mail or by comparable delivery service. E-mail is not considered a letter for the purposes of this paragraph.

8. Legislative action. “Legislative action” means the drafting, introduction, consideration, modification, enactment or defeat of any bill, resolution, amendment, report, nomination or other matter by the Legislature, by either the House of Representatives or the Senate, any committee or an official in the Legislative Branch acting in his official capacity, or action of the Governor in approving or vetoing any legislative document presented to the Governor for his approval.

8-A. Legislative designee. “Legislative designee” means any employee of a state department or agency who is directed by the head of the department or agency to lobby or monitor legislation on behalf of the department or agency. “Legislative designee” includes an employee who is reasonably expected to lobby or monitor legislation on behalf of the department or agency for more than 20 hours during the session. For the purposes of this subsection, “monitoring legislation” means attending legislative hearings and sessions regarding a legislative action.

9. Lobbying. “Lobbying” means to communicate directly with any official in the legislative branch or any official in the executive branch or with a constitutional officer for the purpose of influencing any legislative action or with the Governor or the Governor’s cabinet and staff for the purpose of influencing the approval or veto of a legislative action when reimbursement for expenditures or compensation is made for those activities. “Lobbying” includes the time spent to prepare and submit to the Governor, an official in the legislative branch, an official in the executive branch, a constitutional officer, or a legislative committee oral and written proposals for, or testimony or analyses concerning, a legislative action. “Lobbying” does not include time spent by any person providing information to or participating in a subcommittee, stakeholder group, task force or other work group regarding a legislative action by the appointment or at the request of the Governor, a Legislator or legislative committee, a constitutional officer, a state agency commissioner or the chair of a state board or commission.

10. Lobbyist. “Lobbyist” means any person who is specifically employed by another person for the purpose of and who engages in lobbying in excess of 8 hours in any calendar month, or any individual who, as a regular employee of another person, expends an amount of time in excess of 8 hours in any calendar month in lobbying. “Lobbyist” does not include a lobbyist associate. “Lobbyist” does not include an individual who receives no compensation for lobbying other than reimbursement for lobbying-related travel within the State and reimbursement for other out-of-pocket expenditures made by the individual for printing, postage and food and lodging connected with lobbying activities paid for by the individual. For the purposes of this subsection, “reimbursement for other out-of-pocket expenditures” does not include reimbursement for the individual's time spent lobbying that would have been otherwise compensated by an employer or in the course of the individual's employment.

10-A. Lobbyist associate. “Lobbyist associate” means an individual who:

- A. Is a partner, associate or employee of a lobbyist or is a coemployee of a regular employee of another person if that regular employee is registered as a lobbyist;
- B. Lobbies on behalf of the employer named on the lobbyist registration; and
- C. Expends more than 8 hours in any calendar month lobbying on behalf of an employer of the lobbyist.

10-B. Media outlet. “Media outlet” means a radio or television station, a cable television system, newspapers, magazines and other published written materials.

10-C. Official in the executive branch. “Official in the executive branch” means an individual in a major policy-influencing position in a department or agency listed in section 959 or in Title 5, Chapter 71 and the Governor’s cabinet and staff. As used in this chapter, “major policy-influencing position” means those positions listed in Title 5, chapter 71 and officers or employees of departments and agencies listed in section 959 and in Title 5, Chapter 71 who have policy development as a major function of their positions.

11. Official in the Legislative Branch. “Official in the Legislative Branch” means a member, member-elect, candidate for or officer of the Legislature or an employee of the Legislature.

11-A. Original source. “Original source” means any person who contributes or pays \$1,000 or more in any lobbying year directly or indirectly to any employer of a lobbyist for purposes of lobbying or indirect lobbying, except that contributions of membership dues to nonprofit corporations formed under Title 13-B, under any equivalent state law or by legislative enactment are not considered contributions by an original source.

12. Person. “Person” means an individual, corporation, proprietorship, joint stock company, business trust, syndicate, association, professional association, labor union, firm, partnership, club or other organization, whether profit or nonprofit, or any municipality or quasi-municipality or group of persons acting in concert, but does not include this State or any other agency of this State.

13. Political Action Committee. “Political Action Committee” includes:

A. Any separate or segregated fund established by any corporation, membership organization, cooperative or labor organization whose purpose is to influence the outcome of an election, including a candidate or question; and

B. Any person, as defined in subsection 12 which serves as a funding and transfer mechanism and by which moneys are expended to advance, promote, defeat, influence in any way, or initiate a candidate, campaign, political party, referendum or initiated petition in this State.

14. Reimbursement. “Reimbursement” means anything of value received or to be received as repayment for expenditures.

14-A. Solicit. “Solicit” means to entreat, implore, urge or ask.

15. Year. “Year” means a twelve-month period starting December 1st and ending the following November 30th.

16. Anything of value. “Anything of value” means, but is not limited to:

A. Negotiable items:

(1) Money;

(2) A bank bill or note;

(3) A stock, bond, note or other investment interest in an entity;

(4) A promissory note, bill of exchange, order, draft, warrant, check or bond given for the payment of money;

(5) An honorarium or compensation for services;

- (6) The granting of a discount or rebate:
 - (a) Not extended to the public generally; or
 - (b) By a media outlet not extended equally to all candidates for the same office; and
- (7) The sale or trade of something for reasonable compensation that is not available ordinarily to a member of the public;

B. Obligations:

- (1) A contract, agreement, promise or other obligation for an advance, conveyance, forgiveness of indebtedness, deposit, distribution, loan, payment, pledge or transfer of money;
- (2) A receipt given for the payment of money or other property;
- (3) A right in action;
- (4) A promise or offer of employment; and
- (5) An interest in tangible goods or chattel;

C. Property. The retail or fair market value, whichever is greater, of:

- (1) A work of art, an antique or a collectible;
- (2) An automobile or other means of personal transportation;
- (3) Real property or an interest in real property, including title to realty, a fee simple or partial interest, present or future interest contingent or vested in realty, a leasehold interest or other beneficial interest in realty; and
- (4) Other tangible goods; and

D. Other goods or services. The retail or fair market value, whichever is greater, of:

- (1) The purchase of tickets for an event such as a reception, rally or fund-raising event;
- (2) A meal or lodging; and
- (3) Any service not extended free of charge to other members of the public.

17. State employee or state agency employee. “State employee or state agency employee” means employees of the executive branch, the judicial branch, the Department of the Attorney General, the Department of Secretary of State, the Department of the Treasurer and any employee who directly or indirectly represents an entity listed in Title 5, Chapter 379.

§ 312-B. Required training regarding harassment

A lobbyist shall complete the training required under section 170-B, retain proof of completion of the training for 2 years following completion and certify completion of that training to the commission at the time of registration under section 313. If completion of the required training prior to registration is not possible due to circumstances that are beyond a lobbyist's control, the commission may provide a limited extension to that lobbyist for completion of the training. If a lobbyist has a very limited physical presence in the State House and the Burton M. Cross Building, the commission may exempt the lobbyist from the requirements of this section.

3 § 313. Registration of lobbyists and employers

Every employer of a lobbyist and every lobbyist and lobbyist associate who lobbies on behalf of that employer shall register jointly at the office of the commission no later than 15 business days after commencement of lobbying and pay a registration fee of \$200 for the registration of each lobbyist and \$100 for the registration of each lobbyist associate or such other amounts as the commission determines approximate the cost to the commission of administering and enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

3 § 313-A. Registration of state employees or state agency employees

Within 15 business days of the convening of a regular legislative session, a department or agency shall register with the commission as described in section 316-A those officers or employees who will serve as the department's or agency's legislative designees for the session. The department or agency shall file an updated registration form later in the session containing any changes of its designees within 15 business days of the change.

1. Legislative designee. (REPEALED)

2. Lobbying requirements. (REPEALED)

An employee who is required to be registered under this section is exempt from all other requirements under the law regarding lobbyists.

3 § 314. Duration of registration

Each joint registration filed pursuant to this chapter automatically expires on the last day of the year during which the person was registered to lobby, unless as otherwise provided.

A joint registration expires if the lobbyist or employer notifies the commission in writing that the lobbyist is no longer engaged by the employer to lobby. If termination occurs prior to November 30th, the notification must be given within 30 days of the termination.

If termination is effected prior to November 30th, no further reports are required.

Any new registration must be filed pursuant to section 313 before any lobbying is commenced after the lobbyist's employment has been terminated.

3 § 315. Registration docket (REPEALED)

3 § 315-A. Registration docket; disclosure website

1. Registration. The commission shall prepare and maintain a docket for the registration of lobbyist and employers of lobbyists required to register pursuant to this chapter. The registration docket and all supplementary files of information and materials filed pursuant to this chapter must be open to public inspection during the office hours of the commission. The docket must contain the name of the lobbyist and the person employing the lobbyist, the business address of each, the nature of the business of the person employing the lobbyist and a statement as to the compensation that the lobbyist will receive for lobbying services, or if an exact amount is not ascertainable, the basis upon which the lobbyist will charge for services. This docket must be updated on a monthly basis and arranged and indexed as follows:

A. An alphabetical listing of those persons who have employed a lobbyist, which listing must indicate the names of all lobbyists employed by the employer; and

B. An alphabetical listing of those persons employed as lobbyists, which listing must indicate the names of all persons by whom each lobbyist is employed.

The docket must be reestablished annually by the commission and the docket for any year must be maintained and be available for public inspection in the office of the commission for four (4) years from the expiration of the docket.

2. Disclosure website. The commission shall develop and maintain a publicly accessible website that displays:

- A. A list of all persons who have employed a lobbyist during the current year;
- B. A list of all lobbyists and lobbyist associates registered for the year;
- C. A profile of each registered lobbyist and lobbyist associate, including contact information, the name of the lobbyist's employer or employers, and if provided by the lobbyist or lobbyist associate, a photograph of the lobbyist or lobbyist associate;
- D. A profile of each person employing a lobbyist, including contact information for the employer, and a list of lobbyists and lobbyist associates engaged by the employer;
- E. For each employer, a list of all legislative actions that have been the subject of lobbying for the year, including hyperlinks to the summary page of the Legislature's publicly accessible website for each legislative document listed;
- F. A list of officials in the executive branch as defined in section 312-A, subsection 10-C; and
- G. The monthly reports filed under section 317 and an annual summary of those monthly reports.

3 § 316. Registration forms

The commission shall prepare and make available registration forms for the registration of lobbyists and employers required to register pursuant to section 313. These forms must include the following information:

- 1. Names.** The name of the lobbyist, a list of the lobbyist associates, the name of the person authorized by the lobbyist to sign the registration and reports for the lobbyist and the name of the person employing the lobbyist;
- 2. Business addresses.** The business address and other contact information for the lobbyist, the lobbyist associates and the person employing the lobbyist;
- 3. Date.** The date upon which lobbying commenced or was expected to commence;
- 4. Nature of business.** A description of the nature of the employer's business activity or mission or a description of the industry, trade or profession that the employer represents;
 - 4-A. Legislative interests.** The general areas of legislation that the employer is attempting to influence;
 - 4-B. Legislative committees.** The joint standing committees of the Legislature that the lobbyist expects to lobby during the year;
 - 4-C. Website of employer.** The address for the employer's publicly accessible website;

4-D. Date of completion of required harassment training. The date that the lobbyist completed the training required under section 170-B; and

5. Compensation. The amount of compensation that the lobbyist will receive for that lobbyist's services or, if an exact amount is unascertainable, the basis upon which the lobbyist will charge for those services.

The lobbyist must certify that the information on that form is true, correct and complete and that the employer has approved the information in the registration.

3 § 316-A. Registration forms for state employees or state agency employees

The commission shall prepare and make available registration forms for the registration of state employees or state agency employees required to register pursuant to section 313-A. These forms must include the following information:

1. Names. The name, business address and contact information of the employee and the department or agency the employee is representing and the address for the publicly accessible website of the department or agency the employee is representing;

2. Position description. A position description;

3. Description of agency. A description of the department or agency the employee is representing, its jurisdiction and its activities; and

4. Legislative interests. The general subject areas of legislation that the department or agency is attempting to influence.

The employee must certify that the information entered on the form is true, correct and complete.

3 § 317. Reports

Reports required by this section must be on forms prescribed or approved by the commission. The forms must provide for a sworn statement that the persons signing the report acknowledge the truth and completeness of all the information contained therein.

1. Monthly session reports. During the period in which the Legislature is in session, every registered lobbyist shall file with the commission, no later than 11:59 p.m. on the 15th calendar day of each month, a report concerning the lobbyist's activities for the previous month regarding each employer.

Every lobbyist shall report that lobbyist's lobbying activities for each month that the Legislature is in session, even if no lobbying has been performed or compensation or reimbursement for expenses received for the month. In the case of a lobbyist representing multiple employers, if no lobbying or services in support of lobbying were performed, one report listing each employer on whose behalf no lobbying was conducted may be submitted. The monthly report must contain the following information:

A. The month to which the report pertains;

B. The name and address of the lobbyist and employer;

C. The names of the individuals who lobbied during the month;

D. The specific dollar amount of compensation received for lobbying activities, as defined in section 312-A, subsection 9, during the month. The amount of compensation received for lobbying officials in the legislative branch, officials in the executive branch and constitutional officers must be reported separately.

In the case of a regular employee, the specific dollar amount must be computed by multiplying the number of hours devoted to the preparation of documents and research for the primary purpose of influencing legislative action and to lobbying by the employee's regular rate of pay based on a 40-hour week;

E. The specific dollar amount of expenditures made or incurred by the lobbyist during the month that is the subject of the report for purposes of lobbying as defined in section 312-A, subject 9 for which the lobbyist has been or expects to be reimbursed. The amount of expenditures for lobbying officials in the legislative branch, officials in the executive branch and constitutional officers must be reported separately;

E-1. When expenditures for the purposes of indirect lobbying exceed \$15,000 during the month that is the subject of the report, the specific dollar amount of expenditures for indirect lobbying made or incurred during the month by a lobbyist, lobbyist associate or employer, with separate totals for expenditure categories as determined by the commission, the legislative actions that are the subject of the indirect lobbying and a general description of the intended recipients;

F. The total amount of expenditures by the lobbyist or the employer directly to or on behalf of one or more covered officials, including members of the official's immediate family;

G. For any expenditure of money or anything of value made by the lobbyist or employer on behalf of a covered official or a member of the official's immediate family with a total retail value of \$25 or more, the name of the official or family member, the person making the expenditure and the date, amount and purpose of the expenditure;

G-1. The date, and a description of an event, a list of all officials in the legislative branch or executive branch or members of an official's immediate family in attendance and the total amount of expenditures for the event, if the total amount of the expenditures for officials and family members is \$250 or more;

H. A list of each legislative action by Legislative Document number, specific issue, nomination or other matter in connection with which the lobbyist is engaged in lobbying;

I. A list specifically identifying each legislative action for which the lobbyist was compensated or expects to be compensated, or expended in excess of \$1,000 for lobbying activities related to those actions and a statement of the amounts compensated or expended for each; and

J. A list of all of the employer's original sources and a statement of the dollar amounts contributed or paid by the original sources to the employer. If the original source is a corporation formed under Titles 13 or 13-A, nonprofit corporation formed under Title 13-B or limited partnership under Title 31, the corporation, nonprofit organization or limited partnership, not the individual members or contributors, must be listed as the original source.

2. Annual report. (REPEALED)

2-A. Electronic filing. Beginning January 1, 2006, a lobbyist shall file monthly session reports under subsection 1 through an electronic filing system developed by the commission. The commission may make an exception to this electronic filing requirement if a lobbyist submits a written request that states that the lobbyist lacks access to the technology or the technological ability to file reports electronically. The request for an exception must be submitted at least 10 days prior to the deadline for the first report that the lobbyist is required to file for the lobbying year. The commission shall grant all reasonable requests for exceptions.

3. Facsimile copies. The commission may, by rules adopted pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, establish procedures and fees by which facsimile copies of duly executed reports required by this section may be received and filed with the commission.

4. Monthly non-session reports. When the Legislature is not in regular session, every registered lobbyist must either file:

A. With the lobbyist's last monthly report for that regular session a statement that the lobbyist will not engage in lobbying activities when the Legislature is not in session. The lobbyist is required to file a monthly report for lobbying activity conducted during a special session; or

B. If the lobbyist is engaged in lobbying in any of those months, a monthly report in the manner prescribed in subsection 1 even if compensation or reimbursement for expenses has not been received for the month.

If the lobbyist did not expect to be engaged in lobbying when the Legislature was not in session, the commission may waive the requirement for the months between the end of the session and the renewal of lobbying.

3 § 318. Restricted activities

1. Contingent compensation. No person shall accept employment as a lobbyist on a basis which makes that person's compensation contingent in any manner upon the outcome of any legislative action.

2. Instigation of legislative action. No person shall instigate the introduction or commencement of any legislative action for the purpose of obtaining employment as a lobbyist to oppose or support such legislative action.

3 § 318-A. Prohibition

Beginning January 1, 2015, a person may not engage in activities that require registration as a lobbyist or lobbyist associate as defined by section 312-A, subsections 10 and 10-A if that person has within the previous 12 months been employed in a position for which the salary is subject to adjustment by the Governor under Title 2, section 6 or that is described as a major policy-influencing position under Title 5, chapter 71. A person who violates this section may be assessed a fine of \$100 for every day the person engages in lobbying.

3 § 319. Penalty

1. Failure to file registration or report. Any person who fails to file a registration or report as required by this chapter may be assessed a fine of \$100 for every month the person fails to register or is delinquent in filing a report pursuant to section 317. If a registration or report is

filed late, the commission shall send a notice of the finding of violation and preliminary penalty. The notice must provide the lobbyist with an opportunity to request a waiver of the preliminary penalty. If a lobbyist files a report required pursuant to section 317 within 24 hours after the deadline, the amount of the preliminary penalty is \$50. The commission may waive the fine or penalty in whole or in part if the commission determines the failure to register or report was due to mitigating circumstances or the fine or penalty is disproportionate to the level of experience of the lobbyist or the harm suffered by the public from the late registration or report. For purposes of this subsection, "mitigating circumstances" means:

- A. A valid emergency determined by the commission, in the interest of the sound administration of justice, to warrant the waiver of the fine or penalty in whole or in part;
- B. An error by the commission; or
- C. Circumstances determined by the commission to warrant the waiver of the fine or penalty in whole or in part, based upon relevant evidence presented that a bona fide effort was made to file the report in accordance with this chapter, including, but not limited to, unexplained delays in Internet service.

1-A. Notice of suspension. Any person who fails to file a report or pay a fee as required by this chapter may be suspended from further lobbying by written notice of the commission until such failure is corrected.

2. (REPEALED)

3. Exemption. Notwithstanding section 317, subsection 1, a registered lobbyist is exempt from the penalty imposed under this section if, while the Legislature is convened in special session, the lobbyist failed to file a report with the commission pursuant to section 317 if no lobbying has been performed during that special session.

3 § 319.A Testimony before Legislature; lobbyist

1. Disclosure of compensation. A lobbyist or lobbyist associate who testifies before a joint select or joint standing committee of the Legislature shall disclose to the committee as part of the testimony, the name of the person or organization that the lobbyist or lobbyist associate is representing. A lobbyist or lobbyist associate shall disclose to the committee orally or in written form, the name of any person who is being compensated by the lobbyist or lobbyist associate or by the person or organization that the lobbyist or lobbyist associate is representing to testify before that committee.

2. Report of violation. A member of the Legislature may file a complaint with the commission alleging a violation of this section in accordance with the Joint Rules of the Legislature. The commission shall notify all interested parties and shall investigate any apparent violations of this section.

3. Penalty. If a lobbyist or lobbyist associate fails to disclose information required in subsection 1, the commission may:

- A. Suspend the lobbyist or lobbyist associate from further lobbying by written notice of the commission; and
- B. Assess a penalty of up to \$5,000 against the lobbyist or lobbyist associate.

3 § 320. Disposition of fees

Fees collected pursuant to this chapter must be deposited into a special revenue account of the commission to be used for the purposes of administering and enforcing the provisions of this chapter, including the costs of obtaining, maintaining and upgrading technology to facilitate disclosure of lobbying and campaign finance information to the public.

The commission shall, no later than November 15th of the year prior to any proposed change, establish the amount of the registration fee required to be paid pursuant to section 313 for the subsequent year.

3 § 321. Powers and duties of the Commission

In order to carry out the purposes of this chapter, the commission shall have the following powers and duties.

1. Furnishing of forms. The commission shall furnish forms to persons required to register or file reports.

2. Availability of copying facilities. The commission shall make copying facilities available to the public during regular office hours and, notwithstanding any other provisions of law fixing the cost of such services, shall charge the actual cost of such services.

3. Filing of voluntary information. The commission may accept and file any information voluntarily supplied that exceeds the requirements of this chapter.

4. Preservation of registrations and reports. The commission shall preserve all registrations and reports filed pursuant to this chapter for 4 years from date of receipt and may dispose of same.

5. Acceptance or rejection of forms. The commission may prescribe forms for all documents required or permitted to be filed with the commission and may refuse to accept documents not filed on those forms.

6. Refusal of filing. The commission may refuse to accept any document that is not legible or that can not be clearly reproduced photographically.

7. Review reports for completeness. The commission may reject reports that are incomplete.

8. Investigations. The commission may undertake investigations into the failure to file a registration or to determine the accuracy and completeness of the registration and reporting of lobbyists and their employers if the members of the commission have found cause to believe that a violation may have occurred based on a properly filed complaint or other information received by the commission.

9. Reject registrations. The commission shall reject registrations that do not include certification of completion of training required under section 170-B.

3 § 322. Enforcement

1. Filing of a complaint. Any person may file a complaint with the commission specifying any alleged violation of this chapter. The commission staff may notify the party against whom the complaint has been filed and then may undertake the investigation of the alleged violation if directed by members of the commission.

2. Attorney General. The Attorney General may enforce the provisions of this chapter upon request by the commission.

3. Use of subpoena. In the conduct of an investigation under section 321, subsection 8, the commission may subpoena witnesses and take evidence under oath. The commission may also subpoena records when a lobbyist, employer or other person refuses to provide relevant records required by the commission in the course of investigating a violation of the registration, reporting or other requirements in this chapter. All subpoenas must be approved by the members of the commission and signed by the chair or the chair's designee. Any record or information obtained by the commission in the course of an investigation that is covered by a privilege against discovery or use as evidence is not a public record unless the privilege is waived.

3 § 323. Penalties (REPEALED)

3 § 324. Enforcement (REPEALED)

3 § 325. Powers and duties of the Secretary of State (REPEALED)

3 § 326. Construction

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize the giving or receiving of a pecuniary benefit where otherwise prohibited by law.

3 § 327. Name tag requirement

A person who is required to register as a lobbyist or a lobbyist associate in accordance with this chapter shall wear a clearly visible name tag whenever the lobbyist or lobbyist associate is engaged in the act of lobbying. The name tag must clearly display the lobbyist's name and must include either the name of the firm the lobbyist works for, the name of the lobbyist's employer, the organization the lobbyist represents or the term "lobbyist."