

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 695 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY SCARNATI, FOLMER, GORDNER, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, VOGEL, SCAVELLO, MENSCH, YAW, BAKER, EICHELBERGER, STEFANO, BARTOLOTTA, VANCE, WHITE, AUMENT, WARD, RAFFERTY, WOZNIAK, FONTANA, TEPLITZ, WILLIAMS, YUDICHAK, SCHWANK, SMITH, VULAKOVICH, TARTAGLIONE, BOSCOLA, BLAKE, COSTA AND PILEGGI, APRIL 6, 2015

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 6, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania
 2 Consolidated Statutes, in lobbying disclosure, further
 3 providing for registration, for reporting and for
 4 registration fees, fund established, system and regulations.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 13A04(a), (d) and (e)(1), 13A05(a), (b)
 8 (4), (6) and (8) and (d) and 13A10(c) of Title 65 of the
 9 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

10 § 13A04. Registration.

11 (a) General rule.--Unless excluded under section 13A06
 12 (relating to exemption from registration and reporting), a
 13 lobbyist, lobbying firm or a principal must register with the
 14 department electronically using the computerized filing system
 15 developed by the department that is consistent with the purposes
 16 of this chapter within ten days of acting in any capacity as a
 17 lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal. Registration shall be

1 biennial and shall begin January 1, 2007.

2 * * *

3 (d) Amendments.--

4 (1) If there is a change of information required for the
5 registration statement under subsection (b)(1) or (2) or (c),
6 an amended registration statement shall be filed with the
7 department electronically using the computerized filing
8 system developed by the department that is consistent with
9 the purpose of this chapter within 14 days after the change
10 occurs.

11 (2) When there is a change in information required for
12 the registration statement under subsection (b)(3), an
13 amended registration statement shall be filed with the
14 department electronically using the computerized filing
15 system developed by the department that is consistent with
16 the purpose of this chapter within 14 days of the end of the
17 year in which the change occurs.

18 (e) Termination.--

19 (1) A lobbyist, lobbying firm or principal may terminate
20 registration by filing notice of termination with the
21 department[.] electronically using the computerized filing
22 system developed by the department that is consistent with
23 the purpose of this chapter.

24 * * *

25 § 13A05. Reporting.

26 (a) General rule.--A registered principal shall, under oath
27 or affirmation, file quarterly expense reports with the
28 department electronically using the computerized filing system
29 developed by the department that is consistent with the purpose
30 of this chapter no later than 30 days after the last day of the

1 quarter.

2 (b) Content.--

3 * * *

4 (4) A lobbying firm or a lobbyist not associated with a
5 lobbying firm shall sign the reports electronically submitted
6 by each principal for whom the lobbying firm or lobbyist is
7 registered to attest to the validity and accuracy to the best
8 of the attestor's knowledge. A lobbying firm or lobbyist may
9 attach a statement to the electronic report of a principal,
10 describing the limits of the knowledge of the lobbying firm
11 or lobbyist concerning the information contained in the
12 expense report.

13 * * *

14 (6) A lobbying firm or a lobbyist not associated with a
15 lobbying firm shall submit an expense report electronically
16 using the computerized filing system developed by the
17 department that is consistent with the purpose of this
18 chapter if during the reporting period the lobbying firm or
19 lobbyist engaged in lobbying which was not contained in any
20 expense report filed by a principal or principals
21 represented.

22 * * *

23 (8) A lobbying firm or a lobbyist not associated with a
24 lobbying firm shall submit a report electronically using the
25 computerized filing system developed by the department that
26 is consistent with the purpose of this chapter if the
27 lobbying firm or lobbyist engaged in lobbying on behalf of
28 any entity that is exempt under section 13A06(7), (8), (9) or
29 (10) (relating to exemption from registration and reporting).

30 * * *

1 (d) Thresholds for reporting.--An expense report required
2 under this section shall be filed electronically using the
3 computerized filing system developed by the department that is
4 consistent with the purpose of this chapter when total expenses
5 for lobbying exceed \$2,500 for a registered principal in a
6 reporting period. In a reporting period in which total expenses
7 are \$2,500 or less, a statement to that effect shall be filed
8 electronically using the computerized filing system developed by
9 the department that is consistent with the purpose of this
10 chapter.

11 * * *

12 § 13A10. Registration fees; fund established; system;
13 regulations.

14 * * *

15 (c) Computerized filing system.--The department shall
16 implement a fully accessible system to accommodate the use of
17 computerized filing. Each registrant shall elect on an annual
18 basis whether the registrant will file all of the documents
19 required by this chapter either electronically or on paper with
20 the department. The department shall post all filings on its
21 publicly accessible Internet website within seven days of
22 receipt of the filing.

23 * * *

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect as follows:

25 (1) The amendment of 65 Pa.C.S. §§ 13A04(a), (d) and
26 (e) (1) and 13A05(a), (b) (4), (6) and (8) and (d) shall take
27 effect January 1, 2016.

28 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect
29 immediately.