

**Prepared by the Campaign Legal Center
Current As of February 13, 2007**

Comparison of Lobbying Reform Legislation

	Current Law	S. 1 Passed 1/19/07 96-2	H. Res. 6 Title 2 Passed 1/4/07 430-1
Lobbyist Gifts 5 U.S.C. 7353	Does not allow Members to solicit or accept anything of value unless the gift is pursuant to rules or regulations established by supervising ethics office; No gift may be accepted in return for being influenced in the performance of any official act; Members and staff may accept gifts valued up to \$50; \$100 aggregate gift limit from same source in one year	Bans all gifts from lobbyists and entities that retain lobbyists to members and staff, subject to existing gift rules; Requires tickets to sporting and entertainment events to be valued at face value; Members and staff may not participate in events honoring Members at national party conventions if the event is paid for by a lobbyist	Bans all gifts from lobbyists and entities that retain lobbyists to Members and staff, subject to existing gift rules; Requires tickets to sporting and entertainment events to be valued at face value
Privately Funded Travel	Allows Members to go on privately funded trips, but they must disclose each trip; Lobbyists are not permitted to fund travel	Prohibits Members or staff from accepting privately financed travel from lobbyists or an entity which employs or retains lobbyists, or for a trip attended by lobbyists; Provides exception for travel funded by an entity that employs lobbyists if travel is connected to an event of 1 day or less, or sponsored by a 501 (c)(3) organization that has been pre-approved by the Ethics Committee; Requires Members and staff to provide the Ethics Committee, prior to travel, with certification from trip organizer that privately funded travel is (1) not funded in any part by a lobbyist or an organization that employs lobbyists, (2) not planned, organized, or arranged by a lobbyist, and (3) not attended by lobbyists; Requires Members and staff to file a description of meetings and events, and any contact with lobbyists during travel, no later than 30 days after completion of travel with the Secretary of the Senate	Prohibits Members from accepting reimbursement for a trip funded by a lobbyist or an entity which employs or retains lobbyists, or a trip attended by lobbyists; Provides an exception for trips funded by an institution of higher education, or connected to an event of 1 day or less; Requires trips to be disclosed 15 days after travel; Requires Members and staff to provide the Ethics Committee, prior to travel, with certification from trip organizer that privately funded travel is (1) not funded in any part by a lobbyist or entity that employs lobbyists, (2) financed by the trip organizer's own funds, not by funds from an outside source, (3) not planned, organized, requested or arranged by a lobbyist, and (4) not attended by lobbyists
<i>Corporate jets</i>	Allows Members to take flights on corporate jets with lobbyists and reimburse corporations at the price of a first class ticket	Requires Members and candidates to reimburse for flights on corporate jets at charter rate rather than first class rates; Members and candidates must disclose to the Secretary of the Senate the destination, date, purpose of flight, owner of aircraft and other people attending flight, no later than 60 days after date of flight	Prohibits Members from using official, personal, or campaign funds to pay for the use of privately owned jets

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<i>Lobbyist attendance on privately funded trips</i>	Permits lobbyists to attend privately funded trips	Prohibits lobbyists from attending privately funded trips	Prohibits lobbyists from attending privately funded trips
Changes in Congressional Ethics	Does not require mandatory ethics training for Members	Requires Ethics Committee to provide mandatory ethics training to Senators and staff	Does not require mandatory ethics training for Members; Requires Ethics Committee to offer annual ethics training for Members and staff; New staff must complete ethics training no later than 60 days after beginning House service
<i>Enforcement of ethics rules</i>	Requires ethics rules to be enforced by the ethics committee in each chamber	Does not address this issue	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Member pensions</i>	Allows Members convicted of a crime that occurred during congressional service to keep his or her pension	Disqualifies pensions for Members convicted of crimes committed during congressional service and related to official duties	To be addressed in pending House bill
Slowing the Revolving Door 18 U.S.C. 207	Provides for a 1 year cooling off period before former Members can lobby the legislative branch; Senior congressional staff may not lobby former office or committee	Increases cooling off period from 1 to 2 years for Members and very senior executive personnel to engage in any "lobbying activities"; Prohibits senior congressional staff from lobbying any Member or employees of their former House of Congress for 1 year; Prohibits Member's immediate family members who are lobbyists from having official contact with Member's staff; Provides exception for the spouse of a Member who has worked as lobbyist at least 1 year prior to Member's election	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Members' private sector employment negotiations</i>	Does not require disclosure	Requires disclosure to the Secretary of the Senate when a Member or senior staff member is negotiating future private-sector employment; Prohibits Members from negotiating for future employment as a lobbyist until after a Member's successor has been elected	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Floor privileges for former Members who are lobbyists</i>	All former Members have floor privileges	Eliminates floor, gym, and parking privileges for former Members who are lobbyists	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>K Street Project: Influencing hiring decisions of private entities on a partisan basis</i>	Does not prohibit K Street project	Members prohibited from influencing hiring decisions of private entities	Members prohibited from influencing hiring decisions of private entities

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Enhancing Lobbying Disclosure 2 U.S.C. 1601 (P.L.104-65)	Requires semi-annual filing of lobbying reports, which are made publicly available	Requires quarterly electronic filing of lobbying reports in a public database available on the Internet	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Penalties for failure to comply with lobbying laws</i>	Provides penalties for failure to comply with all rules and regulations up to \$50,000	Increases penalty for failure to comply with lobbying laws to \$200,000 and adds a criminal penalty including possible imprisonment	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Disclosure organizations involved in lobbying activities</i>	Requires disclosure of organizations, other than the client, that "in whole or part, plans, supervises or controls" lobbying activities	Requires disclosure of organizations, other than the client, that "participate in a substantial way in the planning, supervising, or control of lobbying activities"	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Disclosure of lobbyists' past employment</i>	Requires lobbyists to disclose any legislative or executive employment within the last two years	Requires lobbyists to disclose any past legislative or executive employment	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Disclosure of lobbyists' contributions to Members</i>	Does not provide restrictions on campaign contributions or campaign activities by lobbyists	Requires lobbyists to file quarterly reports with the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House including the lobbyist's name, employer, and any PACs affiliated with lobbyist; Lobbyists must report contributions made to, or collected for, a Member, federal candidate, leadership PAC or political party by the lobbyist, employer or affiliated PAC, which in the aggregate exceed \$200, and all fundraisers held for Members and federal candidates; Requires lobbyists also to disclose any reimbursement for a Member's travel, including itemization of payments, travel itinerary, and attendance of lobbyist; Any funds or gifts contributed to a Member or an entity controlled or named after the Member, the name of each Presidential library foundation and Presidential inaugural committee to which donations exceeding \$200 were made	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Disclosure of efforts to stimulate grassroots lobbying</i>	Requires disclosure of financial estimates of amount spent on "lobbying activities"	Does not address this issue	To be addressed in pending House bill

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<i>Administration of lobbying laws</i>	Requires Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House to assist, review, verify and provide guidance for all requirements & reports	Requires Comptroller General to audit lobbyist reports on an annual basis and report on these matters to Congress	To be addressed in pending House bill
<i>Ethics training for lobbyists</i>	Does not address this issue	Does not address this issue	To be addressed in pending House bill
Other Key Provisions <i>Earmarks</i>	Current law does not address earmarks	Requires any Senate bill, joint resolution or conference report containing earmarks to include a list of the earmarks and earmark sponsors, to be made public on the Internet, at least 48 hours before consideration of the measure; Prohibits trading earmarks for votes; Requires Members requesting earmarks to disclose to Committee chairman and minority leader the intended recipients of proposed earmarks, the purpose of the earmarks, and to certify that neither they nor their spouse has personal financial interest in the request; Prohibits Members from introducing earmarks that will financially benefit a Member, Member's spouse or immediate family, or an employee of the Member, or employee's spouse or immediate family	Prohibits trading earmarks for votes; Requires Members to disclose to Committee chairman and minority leader any earmark requests, and to certify that neither they nor their spouse has personal financial interest in the request, and for this information to be available to the public; Defines an earmark as any Member-requested project that is targeted to a specific place and falls outside a formula-driven or competitive award process; Requires committees of jurisdiction and conference committees to provide list of earmarks and earmark sponsors for every reported bill, unreported bill, manager's amendment, and conference report
<i>Procedures</i>		Requires conference reports to be made available to all Members and on the Internet 48 hours before consideration; Provides a point of order against any item contained in a conference report not committed to the conferees by either House relating to the funding of specific programs, projects, or activities; Requires any amendment or instructions accompanying a motion to recommit to be put in writing and provided to the Majority and Minority leaders before debate; Requires, upon request of Presiding Officer or any Senator, a motion to recommit to be put in writing before debate	Prohibits recorded votes from being held open for the purpose of reversing the outcome of the vote