

A bill for an act

relating to lobbying; modifying certain reporting requirements for lobbyists and principals; amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 10A.04, subdivisions 4, 6.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 10A.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Content.** (a) A report under this section must include information the board requires from the registration form and the information required by this subdivision for the reporting period.

(b) A lobbyist must report the lobbyist's total disbursements on lobbying, separately listing lobbying to influence legislative action, lobbying to influence administrative action, lobbying to influence recommendations or actions of a legislative council or commission, and lobbying to influence the official actions of a metropolitan governmental unit, and a breakdown of disbursements for each of those kinds of lobbying into categories specified by the board, including but not limited to the cost of publication and distribution of each publication used in lobbying; other printing; media, including the cost of production; postage; travel; fees, including allowances; entertainment; telephone and telegraph; and other expenses.

(c) A lobbyist must report the amount and nature of each gift, item, or benefit, excluding contributions to a candidate, equal in value to \$5 or more, given or paid to any official, as defined in section 10A.071, subdivision 1, by the lobbyist or an employer or employee of the lobbyist. The list must include the name and address of each official to whom the gift, item, or benefit was given or paid and the date it was given or paid.

(d) A lobbyist must report each original source of money in excess of \$500 in any year used for the purpose of lobbying to influence legislative action, including

but not limited to recommendations or actions of a legislative council or commission, administrative action, or the official action of a metropolitan governmental unit. The list must include the name, address, and employer, or, if self-employed, the occupation and principal place of business, of each payer of money in excess of \$500.

(e) On the report due June 15, the lobbyist must provide a general description of the subjects lobbied in the previous 12 months.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 10A.04, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Principal reports.** (a) A principal must report to the board as required in this subdivision by March 15 for the preceding calendar year.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (d), the principal must report the total amount, rounded to the nearest \$20,000, spent by the principal during the preceding calendar year to influence legislative action, administrative action, and the official action of metropolitan governmental units.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d), the principal must report under this subdivision a total amount that includes:

(1) all direct payments by the principal to lobbyists in this state;

(2) all expenditures for advertising, mailing, research, analysis, compilation and dissemination of information, and public relations campaigns related to legislative action, administrative action, or the official action of metropolitan governmental units in this state; and

(3) all salaries and administrative expenses attributable to activities of the principal relating to efforts to influence legislative action, administrative action, or the official action of metropolitan governmental units in this state.

(d) A principal that must report spending to influence administrative action in cases of rate setting, power plant and powerline siting, and granting of certificates of need under section 216B.243 must report those amounts as provided in this subdivision, except that they must be reported separately and not included in the totals required under paragraphs (b) and (c).

(e) A principal must separately report expenses incurred to educate, inform, lobby, and otherwise influence a public official related to industry conventions, facility tours, travel arrangements, including but not limited to private company aircraft, and any other hospitality-related expenses shall be included in the totals required under paragraphs (b) and (c).

3.1 (f) A principal must separately report expenses incurred to promote or defeat a
3.2 candidate for public office or to advocate approval or defeat of a ballot question and these
3.3 expenses shall be included in the totals required under paragraphs (b) and (c).

3.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for reports due March 15, 2013,
3.5 and thereafter.