

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 585

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ROSS.

1256H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 105, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to lobbyists, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 105, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 105.493, to read as follows:

105.493. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Fair Influence in Government Act".

2. No executive or quasi-executive department or state agency shall use any public resources to pay the costs of employing or contracting for the services of any person who lobbies on behalf of the executive or quasi-executive department or state agency in an attempt to influence the passage or defeat of any legislative measure including, but not limited to, measures related to firearms and gun control.

3. No executive or quasi-executive department or state agency shall use any public resources to pay any membership dues on behalf of the department or agency or any officer or employee of the department or agency to any organization or association if such dues directly or indirectly pay all or part of the salary of any person required to register as a lobbyist under this chapter in an attempt to influence the passage or defeat of any matter pending before a legislative committee in either chamber of the general assembly or before the general assembly including, but not limited to, matters related to firearms and gun control.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 **4. Any person who accepts public funds as compensation for lobbying in violation**
17 **of this section may be prohibited from registering as a legislative lobbyist for a period not**
18 **to exceed two years.**

19 **5. This section shall not be construed to prohibit, limit, preclude, or deprive any**
20 **officer or employee of a department or agency from exercising the department's or**
21 **agency's individual right to communicate with members of the general assembly through**
22 **proper official channels at the request of a member or to request legislative action or**
23 **appropriations that are deemed necessary for the efficient conduct of public business or**
24 **actually made in the proper performance of his or her official duties, including testifying**
25 **before the general assembly or any committee thereof for informational purposes.**

26 **6. Any violation of this section by any executive or quasi-executive department or**
27 **state agency that receives state funds shall result in a fine of not less than one thousand**
28 **dollars but not more than five thousand dollars. The director or similar chief executive of**
29 **such state agency shall be personally liable for such fine.**

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