



Other lobbying rules

Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

What is my lobbyist registration number used for?

After registering with the Board, a lobbyist receives a registration number. This registration number must be included on any political contributions made by the lobbyist. The Board recommends getting the number printed onto any checks that will be used to make contributions so that it cannot accidentally be omitted.

Can a lobbyist be paid with contingent fees?

No. Compensation paid to a lobbyist that is dependent upon the result or outcome of any legislative, administrative, or metropolitan governmental unit action is prohibited.

What rules apply when the legislature is in session?

When the legislature is in session, candidates for the state legislature or for constitutional offices cannot accept contributions from lobbyists. The legislative caucuses also are prohibited from taking contributions from lobbyists during session. This prohibition applies to all candidates for state legislative or constitutional office; not just to the incumbents who currently hold office. The ban applies to the entire first day of the session, even though the session typically does not begin until noon, and to the entire last day, regardless of when the session is adjourned. A contribution from a lobbyist that is mailed to a candidate before the session starts but not received until after the session has begun is received during the session and cannot be accepted. The ban does not apply to special legislative sessions or when the candidate is in a special election.

What is a contribution solicitor report?

A contribution solicitor report is a special reporting form that lobbyists or principals must file if they directly solicit and cause others to make aggregate contributions of more than \$5,000 to candidates or legislative caucuses. The report must show the amount of each contribution, the names of the contributors, and to whom the contributions were given. The report must be filed 15 days before a primary and ten days before a general election. A report for each calendar year must be filed by January 31st of the next year.