



## NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: FREDERICK M. HERRMANN, Ph.D.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
(609) 292-8700

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### Press Advisory

The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, November 20, 1991 at 10:00 a.m. concerning new rules, amendments and repeals pertaining to the registration and reporting requirements of lobbyists and legislative agents. The public hearing will be held on the 12th floor of 28 West State Street in Trenton.

The proposed effective date of these changes is anticipated to be January 1, 1992. The principal changes are:

1. ELEC will assume responsibility for administration of, and quarterly reporting by, legislative agents. This responsibility was formerly under the jurisdiction of the Attorney General.
2. Attempts to influence the rulemaking process of administrative agencies will become subject to reporting.
3. Expenditures by lobbyists and legislative agents to communicate with a lawmaker or rulemaker will become subject to financial disclosure irrespective of whether the communication is made "expressly" for the purpose of influencing a bill or regulation.

4. A membership organization or corporation conducting lobbying activity whose name or occupation does not reveal its primary interest will be required to provide further information on the legislative agent's notice of representation.
5. An expenditure by a legislative agent to pass a benefit to a lawmaker or rulemaker is reportable unless the lawmaker or rulemaker is a family member and the expenditure is made from personal funds.
6. Certain public offices held by legislative agents are subject to disclosure.
7. The term "violation" is defined as the failure to report timely, or in the manner prescribed by law, any event or transaction required to be reported.
8. Name tags will be issued on August 1st and will cover the following 12 months. The current June 30th expiration date will be extended to July 31st in 1992. Name tags will be issued only if a legislative agent has paid the annual fee and filed all required notices of representation and quarterly reports for the prior 12-month period.
9. Records must be kept of a lobbying expenditure above \$25.00 and must be maintained for three years.

A full text of the proposed regulations may be obtained by contacting the Commission at (609) 292-8700.

The Commission invites the participation of interested individuals at the November 20th hearing. Please contact Gregory E. Nagy, Legal Director, at (609) 292-8700 should you wish to testify. Written comments should be submitted by November 20, 1991.

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