

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1449
By: Harris
Government Organization
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the statute dealing with conflicts of interest for registrants under the Lobby Act is ambiguous and vague. As proposed, S.B. 1449 clarifies the current statute to address inconsistencies in the Act.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 305.028, Government Code, as follows:

- (a) Defines “client,” “matter,” and “person associated with the registrant.”
- (b) Redesignated from existing Subsection (a) and a portion of existing Subsection (b). Prohibits a registrant from representing a client, rather than opposing parties, in communicating directly with a member of the legislative or executive branch to influence legislative subject matter. Makes conforming changes.
- (c) Adds a new condition to existing text relating to the name and address of each affected client. Makes conforming changes.
- (f) Requires a registrant, in each report filed with the Texas Ethics Commission, under oath, to affirm that the registrant has complied with this section to the best of the registrant’s knowledge.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 305.031, Government Code, as follows:

- (a) Makes a conforming change.
- (c) Deletes existing Subsection (c) and redesignates existing Subsection (d) as (c).
- (d) Redesignated from existing Subsection (c).

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2003.

SECTION 4. Makes application of this Act prospective.