

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2489
By: Berman, Bohac (Duncan)
State Affairs
5/9/2007
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Current law requires that, unless a lobbyist reports an exact amount of compensation, he or she must report such compensation in certain ranges. The highest range of compensation is \$200,000 or more.

H.B. 2489 provides additional ranges of compensation over \$200,000 in \$50,000 increments up to \$500,000. This bill also requires any compensation over \$500,000 to be reported in an exact amount.

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 305.003(a), Government Code, to require a person to register with the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC) under this chapter (Registration of Lobbyist) under certain conditions, including if the person receives, or is entitled to receive under an agreement under which the person is retained or employed, compensation or reimbursement, not including reimbursement for the person's own travel, food, or lodging expenses or the person's own membership dues, of more than an amount determined by TEC rule but not less than \$200 in a calendar quarter from another person to communicate directly with a member of the legislative or executive branch to influence legislation or administrative action.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 305.005, Government Code, by amending Subsection (g) and adding Subsection (g-1), as follows:

(g) Requires compensation or reimbursement required to be reported under Subsection (f)(6) to be reported in certain categories. Creates additional categories for compensation or reimbursement required to be reported for amounts greater than \$200,000.

(g-1) Requires compensation or reimbursement required to be reported under Subsection (f)(6), notwithstanding any other provision of this section (Registration) to be reported as an exact amount if the compensation or reimbursement received exceeds \$500,000.

SECTION 3. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 2007.