
DIGEST

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Arnold

HB No. 459

Abstract: Allows the immediate family member of a legislator to lobby the legislature provided that the immediate family member was a registered executive branch lobbyist for more than one year prior to Jan. 9, 2012.

Present law (ethics code) prohibits the immediate family member of a legislator from entering into or being in any way interested in any transaction involving the legislator's agency. Present law provides an exception to allow an immediate family member of a legislator to be a registered lobbyist and to lobby the legislature as provided in present law (R.S. 24:50 et seq.), provided each of the following:

- (1) The immediate family member was a registered lobbyist as provided in present law (R.S. 24:50 et seq.), for at least one year prior Jan. 1, 2009, at least one year prior to becoming an immediate family member of the legislator, or at least one year prior to the legislator's initial election to the legislature.
- (2) The immediate family member shall not lobby the legislator as provided in present law (R.S. 24:51), or communicate with any public employee assigned to the district office of the legislator, with any public employee whose primary duty is to assist the individual legislator, or if the legislator is a committee chairman, with any public employee assigned to the committee of which the legislator is chairman concerning any matter which may be the subject of action by the legislature.

Proposed law adds an exception for an immediate family member of a legislator if the immediate family member was a registered executive branch lobbyist as provided in present law (R.S. 49:71 et seq.) for at least one year prior to Jan. 9, 2012. Otherwise retains present law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 42:1123(39)(a))