

illegal kickback, tax evasion, fraud, a conflict of interest, making a false statement, perjury, or money laundering, the date of the conviction and a description of the offense.

No disclosure is required under paragraph (3)(B) if the organization that would be identified as affiliated with the client is listed on the client's publicly accessible Internet website as being a member of or contributor to the client, unless the organization in whole or in major part plans, supervises, or controls such lobbying activities. If a registrant relies upon the preceding sentence, the registrant must disclose the specific Internet address of the web page containing the information relied upon. Nothing in paragraph (3)(B) shall be construed to require the disclosure of any information about individuals who are members of, or donors to, an entity treated as a client by this chapter or an organization identified under that paragraph.

(c) Guidelines for registration

(1) Multiple clients

In the case of a registrant making lobbying contacts on behalf of more than 1 client, a separate registration under this section shall be filed for each such client.

(2) Multiple contacts

A registrant who makes more than 1 lobbying contact for the same client shall file a single registration covering all such lobbying contacts.

(d) Termination of registration

A registrant who after registration—

- (1) is no longer employed or retained by a client to conduct lobbying activities, and
- (2) does not anticipate any additional lobbying activities for such client,

may so notify the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives and terminate its registration.

(Pub. L. 104-65, §4, Dec. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 696; Pub. L. 110-81, title II, §§201(b)(2), (5), 207(a)(1), (b), 208, Sept. 14, 2007, 121 Stat. 742, 747, 748; Pub. L. 115-418, §2(a), Jan. 3, 2019, 132 Stat. 5440.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original “this Act” meaning Pub. L. 104-65, Dec. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 691, known as the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1601 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (b)(7). Pub. L. 115-418 added par. (7).
2007—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 110-81, §201(b)(2)(A), inserted “or on the first business day after such 45th day if the 45th day is not a business day,” after “earlier.”

Subsec. (a)(3)(A). Pub. L. 110-81, §201(b)(2)(B), substituted “quarterly period” for “semiannual period” in concluding provisions.

Subsec. (a)(3)(A)(i). Pub. L. 110-81, §201(b)(5)(A), substituted “\$2,500” for “\$5,000”.

Subsec. (a)(3)(A)(ii). Pub. L. 110-81, §201(b)(5)(B), substituted “\$10,000” for “\$20,000”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110-81, §207(b), inserted concluding provisions.

Subsec. (b)(3)(A). Pub. L. 110-81, §207(a)(1)(A), amended subpar. (A) generally. Prior to amendment, subpar. (A) read as follows: “contributes more than \$5,000 toward the lobbying activities of the registrant in a semiannual period described in section 1604(a) of this title; and”.

Pub. L. 110-81, §201(b)(5)(C), substituted “\$5,000” for “\$10,000”.

Subsec. (b)(3)(B). Pub. L. 110-81, §207(a)(1)(B), amended subpar. (B) generally. Prior to amendment, subpar. (B) read as follows: “in whole or in major part plans, supervises, or controls such lobbying activities.”

Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 110-81, §201(b)(5)(D), substituted “\$5,000” for “\$10,000” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(6). Pub. L. 110-81, §208, substituted “in the 20 years before the date on which the employee first acted” for “in the 2 years before the date on which such employee first acted (after December 19, 1995)”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2007 AMENDMENT

Except as otherwise provided, amendment by Pub. L. 110-81 applicable with respect to registrations under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (this chapter) having an effective date of Jan. 1, 2008, or later and with respect to quarterly reports under that Act covering calendar quarters beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2008, see section 215 of Pub. L. 110-81, set out as a note under section 30104 of Title 52, Voting and Elections.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Jan. 1, 1996, see section 24 of Pub. L. 104-65, set out as a note under section 1601 of this title.

§ 1604. Reports by registered lobbyists

(a) Quarterly report

No later than 20 days after the end of the quarterly period beginning on the first day of January, April, July, and October of each year in which a registrant is registered under section 1603 of this title, or on the first business day after such 20th day if the 20th day is not a business day, each registrant shall file a report with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives on its lobbying activities during such quarterly period. A separate report shall be filed for each client of the registrant.

(b) Contents of report

Each quarterly report filed under subsection (a) shall contain—

(1) the name of the registrant, the name of the client, and any changes or updates to the information provided in the initial registration, including information under section 1603(b)(3) of this title;

(2) for each general issue area in which the registrant engaged in lobbying activities on behalf of the client during the quarterly period—

(A) a list of the specific issues upon which a lobbyist employed by the registrant engaged in lobbying activities, including, to the maximum extent practicable, a list of bill numbers and references to specific executive branch actions;

(B) a statement of the Houses of Congress and the Federal agencies contacted by lobbyists employed by the registrant on behalf of the client;

(C) a list of the employees of the registrant who acted as lobbyists on behalf of the client; and

(D) a description of the interest, if any, of any foreign entity identified under section 1603(b)(4) of this title in the specific issues listed under subparagraph (A);

(3) in the case of a lobbying firm, a good faith estimate of the total amount of all income from the client (including any payments to the registrant by any other person for lobbying activities on behalf of the client) during the quarterly period, other than income for matters that are unrelated to lobbying activities;

(4) in the case of a registrant engaged in lobbying activities on its own behalf, a good faith estimate of the total expenses that the registrant and its employees incurred in connection with lobbying activities during the quarterly period;

(5) for each client, immediately after listing the client, an identification of whether the client is a State or local government or a department, agency, special purpose district, or other instrumentality controlled by one or more State or local governments; and

(6) for any listed lobbyist who was convicted in a Federal or State court of an offense involving bribery, extortion, embezzlement, an illegal kickback, tax evasion, fraud, a conflict of interest, making a false statement, perjury, or money laundering, the date of the conviction and a description of the offense.

(c) Estimates of income or expenses

For purposes of this section, estimates of income or expenses shall be made as follows:

(1) Estimates of amounts in excess of \$5,000 shall be rounded to the nearest \$10,000.

(2) In the event income or expenses do not exceed \$5,000, the registrant shall include a statement that income or expenses totaled less than \$5,000 for the reporting period.

(d) Semiannual reports on certain contributions

(1) In general

Not later than 30 days after the end of the semiannual period beginning on the first day of January and July of each year, or on the first business day after such 30th day if the 30th day is not a business day, each person or organization who is registered or is required to register under paragraph (1) or (2) of section 1603(a) of this title, and each employee who is or is required to be listed as a lobbyist under section 1603(b)(6) of this title or subsection (b)(2)(C) of this section, shall file a report with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives containing—

(A) the name of the person or organization;

(B) in the case of an employee, his or her employer;

(C) the names of all political committees established or controlled by the person or organization;

(D) the name of each Federal candidate or officeholder, leadership PAC, or political party committee, to whom aggregate contributions equal to or exceeding \$200 were made by the person or organization, or a political committee established or controlled by the person or organization within the semiannual period, and the date and amount

of each such contribution made within the semiannual period;

(E) the date, recipient, and amount of funds contributed or disbursed during the semiannual period by the person or organization or a political committee established or controlled by the person or organization—

(i) to pay the cost of an event to honor or recognize a covered legislative branch official or covered executive branch official;

(ii) to an entity that is named for a covered legislative branch official, or to a person or entity in recognition of such official;

(iii) to an entity established, financed, maintained, or controlled by a covered legislative branch official or covered executive branch official, or an entity designated by such official; or

(iv) to pay the costs of a meeting, retreat, conference, or other similar event held by, or in the name of, 1 or more covered legislative branch officials or covered executive branch officials,

except that this subparagraph shall not apply if the funds are provided to a person who is required to report the receipt of the funds under section 30104 of title 52;

(F) the name of each Presidential library foundation, and each Presidential inaugural committee, to whom contributions equal to or exceeding \$200 were made by the person or organization, or a political committee established or controlled by the person or organization, within the semiannual period, and the date and amount of each such contribution within the semiannual period; and

(G) a certification by the person or organization filing the report that the person or organization—

(i) has read and is familiar with those provisions of the Standing Rules of the Senate and the Rules of the House of Representatives relating to the provision of gifts and travel; and

(ii) has not provided, requested, or directed a gift, including travel, to a Member of Congress or an officer or employee of either House of Congress with knowledge that receipt of the gift would violate rule XXXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate or rule XXV of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(2) Definition

In this subsection, the term “leadership PAC” has the meaning given such term in section 30104(i)(8)(B) of title 52.

(e) Electronic filing required

A report required to be filed under this section shall be filed in electronic form, in addition to any other form that the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives may require or allow. The Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall use the same electronic software for receipt and recording of filings under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 104–65, § 5, Dec. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 697; Pub. L. 105–166, § 4(c), Apr. 6, 1998, 112 Stat. 39;

Pub. L. 110–81, title II, §§201(a), (b)(6), 202, 203(a), 205, 207(a)(2), Sept. 14, 2007, 121 Stat. 741, 742, 746, 747; Pub. L. 115–418, §2(b), Jan. 3, 2019, 132 Stat. 5440.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (e), was in the original “this Act” meaning Pub. L. 104–65, Dec. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 691, known as the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1601 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

- 2019—Subsec. (b)(6). Pub. L. 115–418 added par. (6).
- 2007—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110–81, §201(a)(1), substituted, in heading, “Quarterly” for “Semiannual” and, in text, “20 days after the end of the quarterly period beginning on the first day of January, April, July, and October of each year in which a registrant is registered under section 1603 of this title, or on the first business day after such 20th day if the 20th day is not a business day,” for “45 days after the end of the semiannual period beginning on the first day of each January and the first day of July of each year in which a registrant is registered under section 1603 of this title.” and “such quarterly period” for “such semiannual period”.
- Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110–81, §201(a)(2)(A), substituted “quarterly report” for “semiannual report” in introductory provisions.
- Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 110–81, §207(a)(2), inserted “, including information under section 1603(b)(3) of this title” before semicolon.
- Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 110–81, §201(a)(2)(B), substituted “quarterly period” for “semiannual filing period” in introductory provisions.
- Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 110–81, §201(a)(2)(C), substituted “quarterly period” for “semiannual period”.
- Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 110–81, §201(a)(2)(D), substituted “quarterly period” for “semiannual filing period”.
- Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 110–81, §202, added par. (5).
- Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 110–81, §201(b)(6)(A), substituted “\$5,000” for “\$10,000” and “\$10,000” for “\$20,000”.
- Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 110–81, §201(b)(6)(B), substituted “\$5,000” for “\$10,000” in two places.
- Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110–81, §203(a), added subsec. (d).
- Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 110–81, §205, added subsec. (e).
- 1998—Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 105–166 struck out par. (3) which read as follows: “A registrant that reports lobbying expenditures pursuant to section 6033(b)(8) of title 26 may satisfy the requirement to report income or expenses by filing with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives a copy of the form filed in accordance with section 6033(b)(8).”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2007 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 110–81, title II, §203(b), Sept. 14, 2007, 121 Stat. 744, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to the first semiannual period described in section 5(d)(1) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 [2 U.S.C. 1604(d)(1)] (as added by this section) that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act [Sept. 14, 2007] and each succeeding semiannual period.”

Except as otherwise provided, amendment by Pub. L. 110–81 applicable with respect to registrations under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (this chapter) having an effective date of Jan. 1, 2008, or later and with respect to quarterly reports under that Act covering calendar quarters beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2008, see section 215 of Pub. L. 110–81, set out as a note under section 30104 of Title 52, Voting and Elections.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Jan. 1, 1996, see section 24 of Pub. L. 104–65, set out as a note under section 1601 of this title.

§ 1605. Disclosure and enforcement

(a) In general

The Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall—

(1) provide guidance and assistance on the registration and reporting requirements of this chapter and develop common standards, rules, and procedures for compliance with this chapter;

(2) review, and, where necessary, verify and inquire to ensure the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of registration and reports;

(3) develop filing, coding, and cross-indexing systems to carry out the purpose of this chapter, including—

(A) a publicly available list of all registered lobbyists, lobbying firms, and their clients; and

(B) computerized systems designed to minimize the burden of filing and maximize public access to materials filed under this chapter;

(4) make available for public inspection and copying at reasonable times the registrations and reports filed under this chapter and, in the case of a report filed in electronic form under section 1604(e) of this title, make such report available for public inspection over the Internet as soon as technically practicable after the report is so filed;

(5) retain registrations for a period of at least 6 years after they are terminated and reports for a period of at least 6 years after they are filed;

(6) compile and summarize, with respect to each quarterly period, the information contained in registrations and reports filed with respect to such period in a clear and complete manner;

(7) notify any lobbyist or lobbying firm in writing that may be in noncompliance with this chapter;

(8) notify the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia that a lobbyist or lobbying firm may be in noncompliance with this chapter, if the registrant has been notified in writing and has failed to provide an appropriate response within 60 days after notice was given under paragraph (7);

(9) maintain all registrations and reports filed under this chapter, and make them available to the public over the Internet, without a fee or other access charge, in a searchable, sortable, and downloadable manner, to the extent technically practicable, that—

(A) includes the information contained in the registrations and reports;

(B) is searchable and sortable to the maximum extent practicable, including searchable and sortable by each of the categories of information described in section 1603(b) or 1604(b) of this title; and

(C) provides electronic links or other appropriate mechanisms to allow users to obtain relevant information in the database of the Federal Election Commission;