

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs.

HB25-1170 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, page 2, after line 1 insert:

2 **"SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Current law regarding lobbyist registration requires an
5 individual who engages with covered officials and receives compensation
6 from the organization for which they are speaking to register as a
7 professional lobbyist and report to the secretary of state's office;

8 (b) This includes timely reporting of each interaction, payment of
9 a registration fee, monthly disclosure reports on a year-round basis, and
10 the acknowledgment of engaging in lobbying activity, and these
11 requirements apply to employees of nonprofit charitable organizations
12 classified under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;

13 (c) Current law has had a massive chilling effect on the
14 engagement by nonprofit charitable organizations with the general
15 assembly because nonprofit charitable organizations are uncomfortable
16 with the professional lobbyist title and the need to provide disclosures for
17 a single or handful of interactions with elected officials;

18 (d) Nonprofit advocates are not lobbyists by trade but are required
19 to engage on legislation affecting their employer;

20 (e) Nonprofit charitable organizations value transparency and the
21 desire to share what they are working on, whom they have spoken to, and
22 what their position on a matter is, but feel the current requirements are
23 burdensome; and

24 (f) Nonprofit charitable organizations provide a valuable and
25 unique lens when evaluating legislation because they comprise a large
26 part of the state and provide an important perspective for the general
27 assembly.

28 (2) Therefore, the general assembly further finds and declares that
29 there is a need to provide for a new type of lobbyist registration that
30 encourages engagement and participation by nonprofit charitable
31 organizations and provides for transparency that is critical to the
32 legislative process."

33 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.

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