

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 25

BY SENATOR MILLS

ETHICS. Provides relative to prohibited conduct. (8/1/18)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 24:56(F), relative to prohibited conduct by state employees and agencies; to prohibit state employees and agencies from contracting for lobbying services; to provide for termination of authority for lobbying services contracts; to provide for the termination of existing lobbying services contracts; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 24:56(F) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§56. Prohibited conduct

\* \* \*

F.(1) No state employee in his official capacity or on behalf of his ~~employer~~ **agency** shall lobby for or against any matter intended to have the effect of law pending before the legislature or any committee thereof. Nothing herein shall prohibit the dissemination of factual information relative to any such matter or the use of public meeting rooms or meeting facilities available to all citizens to lobby for or against any such matter.

(2) No state employee in his official capacity or on behalf of his agency

1 shall enter into a contract with a lobbyist or a contract for lobbying services to  
 2 lobby for or against any matter intended to have the effect of law pending  
 3 before the legislature or any committee thereof. For purposes of this provision,  
 4 a contract shall include the following:

5 (a) An agreement to expend public funds for lobbyist or lobbying  
 6 services entered into pursuant to the Louisiana Procurement Code, R.S. 39:1551  
 7 et seq.

8 (b) A memorandum of understanding, cooperative endeavor agreement,  
 9 or other similar agreement with a lobbyist or for lobbying services.

10 (3) For purposes of this Subsection, "agency" or "agencies" shall mean  
 11 any department, office, division, agency, commission, board, committee, or  
 12 other organizational unit of a state government entity.

13 (4) The division of administration, office of state procurement, pursuant  
 14 to the Louisiana Procurement Code, R.S. 39:1551 et seq., shall direct all state  
 15 procurement officers to revoke procurement authority to all state government  
 16 agencies with respect to contracts for professional lobbyists or lobbying services  
 17 and shall terminate or direct to terminate all existing contracts between a state  
 18 government agency and a lobbyist or other entity that includes a scope of work  
 19 to provide lobbying services for a state government agency.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

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SB 25 Engrossed

DIGEST  
2018 Regular Session

Mills

Present law prohibits state government employees from lobbying the legislature.

Proposed law prohibits state government employees from contracting with lobbyists or for lobbying services by use of a contract, memorandum of understanding, cooperative endeavor agreement, or other similar agreement. Proposed law directs the division of administration to revoke agency authority to enter into such contracts and terminate any existing contracts for lobbying services and contracts with entities that include a scope of work that includes lobbying services.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 24:56(F))