

**CITY OF OAKLAND**  
**Public Ethics Commission**

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**TO:** Public Ethics Commission  
**FROM:** Daniel Purnell  
**DATE:** August 30, 2004

**RE: Lobbyist Registration Committee's Proposed Amendments To The  
Lobbyist Registration Act**

At its meeting of August 11, 2004, the Lobbyist Registration and Campaign Finance Committee adopted a series of amendments to the Lobbyist Registration Act for consideration by the full Commission. The Committee began reviewing the current Act in December, 2003. It held four separate public meetings at which members of the public and the regulated community participated. The attached "redline" version of the Act indicates the changes being proposed. Commission staff has annotated each proposed change with an explanation as well as the Committee's rationale for the change.

In summary, the Committee proposes that the Act be amended to provide:

- 1) annual registration of lobbyists every January. **See §3.20.040(C).**
- 2) an exemption from lobbyist registration for activities that include: a) communications involving employee contracts and agreements; and, b) responses to bids and RFP's. **See §§3.20.060(F) and (G), respectively.**
- 3) the identification of the person(s) a lobbyist seeks to influence. **See §3.20.110(B).**
- 4) the disclosure of a lobbyist's fundraising activities **See §3.20.110(D).**
- 5) a restriction on gifts and other forms of compensation by lobbyists to elected officials and certain staff. **See §3.20.180.**

- 6) misdemeanor penalties and a practice ban for knowing and willful violations of the ordinance. **See §3.20.200.**

Commission staff recommends that the Commission review the proposed amendments and take public comment before taking any action on whether to recommend their adoption by the Oakland City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel D. Purnell  
Executive Director