

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 131 would require that lobbyists required to file an expenditure report with the Secretary of State must also, within one week of the end of a legislative session, send the Secretary of State a list of the bills on which the lobbyist worked during that session, and whether the legislation was supported or opposed.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SOS indicates that there would be no fiscal impact, although SOS “will need to implement a minor system enhancement to accommodate the new report.”

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Currently, the Lobbyist Regulation Act, Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978, requires that expenditure reports be filed for all expenditures over \$100 within the 12 months preceding each January 15 deadline. For expenditures greater than \$500, a report must be made within 48 hours. There is no requirement in the Act at present for an indication as to which bills the lobbyist has worked on or regarding which he/she has made an expenditure.

RELATIONSHIP with Senate Bill 191 and House Bill 140, each of which deal with lobbyist expenditures and the reporting of them that must be sent to the Secretary of State. Each of the three bills differs in its language and requirements.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

SOS notes that “The sponsor may want to consider the effective date to align with the SOS’s implementation of their new campaign finance reporting system during the 2020 election cycle.”

LAC/gb