

Government Administration and Elections Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1430

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF

Title: STATE ETHICS FOR REVISIONS TO THE STATE CODE OF ETHICS.

Vote Date: 3/12/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/7/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

There exists a growing desire to protect against potential ethics violations and hold public officials accountable by closing any perceived discrepancies in the current State Code of Ethics regarding conflicting of interests. This would help aid in the growing desire for more transparency in government. This bill would seek to update the State Code of Ethics according to recommendations by the Office of State Ethics.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Peter Lewandowski, Executive Director, Office of State Elections:

The bill is necessary to make revisions for Public Officials to the Code of Ethics. The bill extends provisions to a public official's and state employee's nonstate employer and the nonstate employer of such official's or employee's spouse. The revision extends substantive conflicts of interests where a public official or state employee takes official action for the benefit of their spouse or the nonstate employer of the official's or employee's spouse. This change corrects an oversight and amends subsection (a) to include members of the Executive Department boards, commissions, committees, or councils who exercise the authority on large state construction or procurement contracts. This brings consistency in SFI filings and increases public transparency and offers a longstanding opportunity to strengthen and clarify the State Code of Ethics.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed.

Reported by: Pamela Bianca

Date: March 18, 2025