



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 6931***

LCO No. 4441



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

Introduced by:  
(GOS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DUE TO AN  
EMPLOYER OTHER THAN THE STATE UNDER THE STATE CODE OF  
ETHICS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 1-85 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 (a) (1) For purposes of this section, "business with which the public  
4 official or state employee is associated" has the same meaning as  
5 "business with which he is associated", as provided in section 1-79.

6 (2) A public official, including an elected state official, or state  
7 employee has an interest which is in substantial conflict with the proper  
8 discharge of [his] such official's or employee's duties or employment in  
9 the public interest and of [his] such official's or employee's  
10 responsibilities as prescribed in the laws of this state, if [he] such official  
11 or employee has reason to believe or expect that [he, his] any of the  
12 following persons will derive a direct monetary gain or suffer a direct  
13 monetary loss, as the case may be, by reason of such official's or  
14 employee's official activity: The official or employee, or such official's or

15 employee's spouse, [a] dependent child [, or a business with which he is  
16 associated will derive a direct monetary gain or suffer a direct monetary  
17 loss, as the case may be, by reason of his official activity] or nonstate  
18 employer or the nonstate employer of the official's or employee's  
19 spouse, or a business with which the public official or state employee is  
20 associated, except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection.

21 (3) In the case of an elected state official, such official only has a  
22 substantial conflict regarding a matter concerning such elected official's  
23 nonstate employer or the nonstate employer of such official's spouse or  
24 a business with which the official is associated, if such official has actual  
25 knowledge, rather than has reason to believe or expect, that such  
26 nonstate employer or business will derive a direct monetary gain or  
27 suffer a direct monetary loss, as the case may be, by reason of such  
28 official's official activity.

29 (4) A public official, including an elected state official, or state  
30 employee does not have an interest which is in substantial conflict with  
31 the proper discharge of [his] such official's or employee's duties in the  
32 public interest and of [his] such official's or employee's responsibilities  
33 as prescribed by the laws of this state, if any benefit or detriment accrues  
34 to [him, his] such official or employee, such official's or employee's  
35 spouse, [a] dependent child [,] or nonstate employer, the nonstate  
36 employer of the official's or employee's spouse or a business with which  
37 [he, his spouse or such dependent child] the public official or state  
38 employee is associated as a member of a profession, occupation or  
39 group to no greater extent than any other member of such profession,  
40 occupation or group. [A] Except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
41 section, a public official, including an elected state official, or state  
42 employee who has a substantial conflict may not take official action on  
43 the matter.

44 (b) If an elected state official has a substantial conflict regarding a  
45 matter that concerns a direct monetary gain or direct monetary loss for  
46 the nonstate employer of such official or the nonstate employer of such

47 official's spouse, such official shall either excuse himself or herself from  
 48 the matter or, prior to taking official action on the matter, prepare a  
 49 written statement signed under penalty of false statement describing the  
 50 matter requiring action, the nature of the conflict and explaining why,  
 51 despite the conflict, such official is able to vote or otherwise participate  
 52 fairly, objectively and in the public interest in such matter. Such official  
 53 shall submit a copy of such statement to the Office of State Ethics and  
 54 enter a copy of the statement in the journal or minutes of the state  
 55 agency to which such official has been elected, or, if such agency does  
 56 not have a journal or minutes, submit the copy to such agency.

57 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 1-86 of the general statutes is repealed  
 58 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

59 (a) For purposes of this section, "business with which such public  
 60 official or employee is associated" has the same meaning as "business  
 61 with which he is associated", as provided in section 1-79. Any public  
 62 official or state employee, other than an elected state official, who, in the  
 63 discharge of such official's or employee's official duties, would be  
 64 required to take an action that would affect a financial interest of such  
 65 official or employee, such official's or employee's spouse, parent,  
 66 brother, sister, child, [or] the spouse of a child, nonstate employer,  
 67 nonstate employer of the official's or employee's spouse or a business  
 68 with which such official or employee is associated, other than an interest  
 69 of a de minimis nature, an interest that is not distinct from that of a  
 70 substantial segment of the general public or an interest in substantial  
 71 conflict with the performance of official duties, as defined in section 1-  
 72 85, as amended by this act, has a potential conflict of interest. Under  
 73 such circumstances, such official or employee shall, if such official or  
 74 employee is a member of a state regulatory agency, either excuse himself  
 75 or herself from the matter or, prior to taking official action on the matter,  
 76 prepare a written statement signed under penalty of false statement  
 77 describing the matter requiring action and the nature of the potential  
 78 conflict and explaining why despite the potential conflict, such official  
 79 or employee is able to vote [and] or otherwise participate fairly,

80 objectively and in the public interest in such matter. Such public official  
81 or state employee shall [deliver] submit a copy of the statement to the  
82 Office of State Ethics and enter a copy of the statement in the journal or  
83 minutes of the agency or, if such agency does not have a journal or  
84 minutes, submit the copy to such agency. If such official or employee is  
85 not a member of a state regulatory agency, such official or employee  
86 shall, in the case of either a substantial or potential conflict, prepare a  
87 written statement signed under penalty of false statement describing the  
88 matter requiring action and the nature of the conflict and deliver a copy  
89 of the statement to such official's or employee's immediate superior, if  
90 any, who shall assign the matter to another employee, or if such official  
91 or employee has no immediate superior, such official or employee shall  
92 take such steps as the Office of State Ethics shall prescribe or advise.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-85
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-86(a)

***Statement of Purpose:***

To apply substantial conflict of interest provisions in the state code of ethics for public officials and state employees to conflicts involving the public official's or state employee's nonstate employer or spouse's nonstate employer.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*