



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 1227***

LCO No. 3780



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT INCREASING VARIOUS MONETARY THRESHOLDS UNDER  
THE STATE CODES OF ETHICS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (5) of section 1-79 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3 *1, 2025*):

4 (5) "Gift" means anything of value, which is directly and personally  
5 received, unless consideration of equal or greater value is given in  
6 return. "Gift" does not include:

7 (A) A political contribution otherwise reported as required by law or  
8 a donation or payment as described in subdivision (9) or (10) of  
9 subsection (b) of section 9-601a;

10 (B) Services provided by persons volunteering their time, if provided  
11 to aid or promote the success or defeat of any political party, any  
12 candidate or candidates for public office or the position of convention  
13 delegate or town committee member or any referendum question;

14 (C) A commercially reasonable loan made on terms not more  
15 favorable than loans made in the ordinary course of business;

16 (D) A gift received from (i) an individual's spouse, fiancé or fiancée,  
17 (ii) the parent, grandparent, brother or sister of such spouse or such  
18 individual, or (iii) the child of such individual or the spouse of such  
19 child;

20 (E) Goods or services (i) that are provided to a state agency or quasi-  
21 public agency (I) for use on state or quasi-public agency property, or (II)  
22 that support an event or the participation by a public official or state  
23 employee at an event, and (ii) that facilitate state or quasi-public agency  
24 action or functions. As used in this subparagraph, "state property"  
25 means property owned by the state or a quasi-public agency or property  
26 leased to a state agency or quasi-public agency;

27 (F) A certificate, plaque or other ceremonial award costing less than  
28 ~~[one]~~ two hundred fifty dollars;

29 (G) A rebate, discount or promotional item available to the general  
30 public;

31 (H) Printed or recorded informational material germane to state  
32 action or functions;

33 (I) Food or beverage or both, costing less than ~~[fifty]~~ one hundred  
34 dollars in the aggregate per recipient in a calendar year, and consumed  
35 on an occasion or occasions at which the person paying, directly or  
36 indirectly, for the food or beverage, or ~~[his]~~ such person's representative,  
37 is in attendance;

38 (J) Food or beverage or both, costing less than ~~[fifty]~~ one hundred  
39 dollars per person and consumed at a publicly noticed legislative  
40 reception to which all members of the General Assembly are invited and  
41 which is hosted not more than once in any calendar year by a lobbyist  
42 or business organization. For the purposes of such limit, (i) a reception

43 hosted by a lobbyist who is an individual shall be deemed to have also  
44 been hosted by the business organization which such lobbyist owns or  
45 is employed by, and (ii) a reception hosted by a business organization  
46 shall be deemed to have also been hosted by all owners and employees  
47 of the business organization who are lobbyists. In making the  
48 calculation for the purposes of such [fifty-dollar] one-hundred-dollar  
49 limit, the donor shall divide the amount spent on food and beverage by  
50 the number of persons whom the donor reasonably expects to attend the  
51 reception;

52 (K) Food or beverage or both, costing less than [fifty] one hundred  
53 dollars per person and consumed at a publicly noticed reception to  
54 which all members of the General Assembly from a region of the state  
55 are invited and which is hosted not more than once in any calendar year  
56 by a lobbyist or business organization. For the purposes of such limit, (i)  
57 a reception hosted by a lobbyist who is an individual shall be deemed  
58 to have also been hosted by the business organization which such  
59 lobbyist owns or is employed by, and (ii) a reception hosted by a  
60 business organization shall be deemed to have also been hosted by all  
61 owners and employees of the business organization who are lobbyists.  
62 In making the calculation for the purposes of such [fifty-dollar] one-  
63 hundred-dollar limit, the donor shall divide the amount spent on food  
64 and beverage by the number of persons whom the donor reasonably  
65 expects to attend the reception. As used in this subparagraph, "region of  
66 the state" means the established geographic service area of the  
67 organization hosting the reception;

68 (L) A gift, including, but not limited to, food or beverage or both,  
69 provided by an individual for the celebration of a major life event,  
70 provided any such gift provided by an individual who is not a member  
71 of the family of the recipient does not exceed one thousand five hundred  
72 dollars in value;

73 (M) Gifts costing less than [one] two hundred fifty dollars in the  
74 aggregate or food or beverage provided at a hospitality suite at a

75 meeting or conference of an interstate legislative association, by a  
76 person who is not a registrant or is not doing business with the state of  
77 Connecticut;

78 (N) Admission to a charitable or civic event, including food and  
79 beverage provided at such event, but excluding lodging or travel  
80 expenses, at which a public official or state employee participates in his  
81 or her official capacity, provided such admission is provided by the  
82 primary sponsoring entity;

83 (O) Anything of value provided by an employer of (i) a public official,  
84 (ii) a state employee, or (iii) a spouse of a public official or state  
85 employee, to such official, employee or spouse, provided such benefits  
86 are customarily and ordinarily provided to others in similar  
87 circumstances;

88 (P) Anything having a value of not more than [ten] twenty dollars,  
89 provided the aggregate value of all things provided by a donor to a  
90 recipient under this subdivision in any calendar year does not exceed  
91 [fifty] one hundred dollars;

92 (Q) Training that is provided by a vendor for a product purchased by  
93 a state or quasi-public agency that is offered to all customers of such  
94 vendor;

95 (R) Travel expenses, lodging, food, beverage and other benefits  
96 customarily provided by a prospective employer, when provided to a  
97 student at a public institution of higher education whose employment  
98 is derived from such student's status as a student at such institution, in  
99 connection with bona fide employment discussions;

100 (S) Expenses of a public official, paid by the party committee of which  
101 party such official is a member, for the purpose of accomplishing the  
102 lawful purposes of the committee. As used in this subparagraph, "party  
103 committee" has the same meaning as provided in subdivision (2) of  
104 section 9-601 and "lawful purposes of the committee" has the same

105 meaning as provided in subsection (g) of section 9-607; or

106 (T) Travel expenses, lodging, food, beverage and other benefits  
107 customarily provided in the course of employment, when provided to a  
108 public member of the Investment Advisory Council established under  
109 section 3-13b.

110 Sec. 2. Subsection (i) of section 1-84 of the general statutes is repealed  
111 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

112 (i) (1) No public official or state employee or member of the official  
113 or employee's immediate family or a business with which he is  
114 associated shall enter into any contract with the state, valued at [one]  
115 two hundred fifty dollars or more, other than a contract (A) of  
116 employment as a state employee, (B) with the Technical Education and  
117 Career System for students enrolled in a school in the system to perform  
118 services in conjunction with vocational, technical, technological or  
119 postsecondary education and training any such student is receiving at a  
120 school in the system, subject to the review process under subdivision (2)  
121 of this subsection, (C) with a public institution of higher education to  
122 support a collaboration with such institution to develop and  
123 commercialize any invention or discovery, or (D) pursuant to a court  
124 appointment, unless the contract has been awarded through an open  
125 and public process, including prior public offer and subsequent public  
126 disclosure of all proposals considered and the contract awarded. In no  
127 event shall an executive head of an agency, as defined in section 4-166,  
128 including a commissioner of a department, or an executive head of a  
129 quasi-public agency, or the executive head's immediate family or a  
130 business with which he is associated enter into any contract with that  
131 agency or quasi-public agency. Nothing in this subsection shall be  
132 construed as applying to any public official who is appointed as a  
133 member of the executive branch or as a member or director of a quasi-  
134 public agency and who receives no compensation other than per diem  
135 payments or reimbursement for actual or necessary expenses, or both,  
136 incurred in the performance of the public official's duties unless such

137 public official has authority or control over the subject matter of the  
138 contract. Any contract made in violation of this subsection shall be  
139 voidable by a court of competent jurisdiction if the suit is commenced  
140 not later than one hundred eighty days after the making of the contract.

141 (2) The superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System  
142 shall establish an open and transparent process to review any contract  
143 entered into under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this  
144 subsection.

145 Sec. 3. Subsection (o) of section 1-84 of the general statutes is repealed  
146 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

147 (o) If (1) any person (A) is doing business with or seeking to do  
148 business with the department or agency in which a public official or  
149 state employee is employed, or (B) is engaged in activities which are  
150 directly regulated by such department or agency, and (2) such person or  
151 a representative of such person gives to such public official or state  
152 employee anything having a value of more than [ten] twenty dollars,  
153 such person or representative shall, not later than ten days thereafter,  
154 give such recipient and the executive head of the recipient's department  
155 or agency a written report stating the name of the donor, a description  
156 of the item or items given, the value of such items and the cumulative  
157 value of all items given to such recipient during that calendar year. The  
158 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a political contribution  
159 otherwise reported as required by law.

160 Sec. 4. Subdivision (6) of section 1-91 of the general statutes is  
161 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
162 *1, 2025*):

163 (6) "Expenditure" means any advance, conveyance, deposit,  
164 distribution, transfer of funds, loan, payment, unless expressly  
165 excluded; any payments for telephone, mailing, postage, printing and  
166 other clerical or office services and materials; any paid communications,  
167 costing [fifty] one hundred dollars or more in any calendar year,

168 disseminated by means of any printing, broadcasting or other medium,  
 169 provided such communications refer to pending administrative or  
 170 legislative action; any contract, agreement, promise or other obligation;  
 171 any solicitation or solicitations, costing [fifty] one hundred dollars or  
 172 more in the aggregate for any calendar year, of other persons to  
 173 communicate with a public official or state employee for the purpose of  
 174 influencing any legislative or administrative act and any pledge,  
 175 subscription of money or anything of value. "Expenditure" does not  
 176 include (A) the payment of a registrant's fee pursuant to section 1-95, (B)  
 177 any expenditure made by any club, committee, partnership,  
 178 organization, business, union, association or corporation for the  
 179 purpose of publishing a newsletter or other release intended primarily  
 180 for its members, shareholders or employees, whether in written or  
 181 electronic form or made orally during a regularly noticed meeting, (C)  
 182 any expenditure made by any club, committee, partnership,  
 183 organization, business, union, association or corporation for the  
 184 purpose of transporting its members, shareholders or employees to or  
 185 from a specific site, where such members, shareholders or employees  
 186 received no other compensation or reimbursement for lobbying from  
 187 such club, committee, partnership, organization, business, union,  
 188 association or corporation, or (D) contributions, membership dues or  
 189 other fees paid to associations, nonstock corporations or tax-exempt  
 190 organizations under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,  
 191 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United  
 192 States, as [from time to time] amended from time to time.

193 Sec. 5. Subdivision (7) of section 1-91 of the general statutes is  
 194 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
 195 *1, 2025*):

196 (7) "Gift" means anything of value, which is directly and personally  
 197 received, unless consideration of equal or greater value is given in  
 198 return. "Gift" does not include:

199 (A) A political contribution otherwise reported as required by law or

200 a donation or payment described in subdivision (9) or (10) of subsection  
201 (b) of section 9-601a;

202 (B) Services provided by persons volunteering their time, if provided  
203 to aid or promote the success or defeat of any political party, any  
204 candidate or candidates for public office or the position of convention  
205 delegate or town committee member or any referendum question;

206 (C) A commercially reasonable loan made on terms not more  
207 favorable than loans made in the ordinary course of business;

208 (D) A gift received from (i) the individual's spouse, fiancé or fiancée,  
209 (ii) the parent, grandparent, brother or sister of such spouse or such  
210 individual, or (iii) the child of such individual or the spouse of such  
211 child;

212 (E) Goods or services (i) that are provided to a state agency or quasi-  
213 public agency (I) for use on state or quasi-public agency property, or (II)  
214 that support an event or the participation by a public official or state  
215 employee at an event, and (ii) that facilitate state or quasi-public agency  
216 action or functions. As used in this subparagraph, "state property"  
217 means property owned by the state or a quasi-public agency or property  
218 leased to a state or quasi-public agency;

219 (F) A certificate, plaque or other ceremonial award costing less than  
220 ~~[one]~~ two hundred fifty dollars;

221 (G) A rebate, discount or promotional item available to the general  
222 public;

223 (H) Printed or recorded informational material germane to state  
224 action or functions;

225 (I) Food or beverage or both, costing less than ~~[fifty]~~ one hundred  
226 dollars in the aggregate per recipient in a calendar year, and consumed  
227 on an occasion or occasions at which the person paying, directly or  
228 indirectly, for the food or beverage, or ~~[his]~~ such person's representative,



229 is in attendance;

230 (J) Food or beverage or both, costing less than [fifty] one hundred  
231 dollars per person and consumed at a publicly noticed legislative  
232 reception to which all members of the General Assembly are invited and  
233 which is hosted not more than once in any calendar year by a lobbyist  
234 or business organization. For the purposes of such limit, (i) a reception  
235 hosted by a lobbyist who is an individual shall be deemed to have also  
236 been hosted by the business organization which [he] such lobbyist owns  
237 or is employed by, and (ii) a reception hosted by a business organization  
238 shall be deemed to have also been hosted by all owners and employees  
239 of the business organization who are lobbyists. In making the  
240 calculation for the purposes of such [fifty-dollar] one-hundred-dollar  
241 limit, the donor shall divide the amount spent on food and beverage by  
242 the number of persons whom the donor reasonably expects to attend the  
243 reception;

244 (K) Food or beverage or both, costing less than [fifty] one hundred  
245 dollars per person and consumed at a publicly noticed reception to  
246 which all members of the General Assembly from a region of the state  
247 are invited and which is hosted not more than once in any calendar year  
248 by a lobbyist or business organization. For the purposes of such limit, (i)  
249 a reception hosted by a lobbyist who is an individual shall be deemed  
250 to have also been hosted by the business organization which [he] such  
251 lobbyist owns or is employed by, and (ii) a reception hosted by a  
252 business organization shall be deemed to have also been hosted by all  
253 owners and employees of the business organization who are lobbyists.  
254 In making the calculation for the purposes of such [fifty-dollar] one-  
255 hundred-dollar limit, the donor shall divide the amount spent on food  
256 and beverage by the number of persons whom the donor reasonably  
257 expects to attend the reception. As used in this subparagraph, "region of  
258 the state" means the established geographic service area of the  
259 organization hosting the reception;

260 (L) A gift, including, but not limited to, food or beverage or both,

261 provided by an individual for the celebration of a major life event,  
262 provided any such gift provided by an individual who is not a member  
263 of the family of the recipient does not exceed one thousand five hundred  
264 dollars in value;

265 (M) Gifts costing less than [one] two hundred fifty dollars in the  
266 aggregate or food or beverage provided at a hospitality suite at a  
267 meeting or conference of an interstate legislative association, by a  
268 person who is not a registrant or is not doing business with the state of  
269 Connecticut;

270 (N) Admission to a charitable or civic event, including food and  
271 beverage provided at such event, but excluding lodging or travel  
272 expenses, at which a public official or state employee participates in his  
273 or her official capacity, provided such admission is provided by the  
274 primary sponsoring entity;

275 (O) Anything of value provided by an employer of (i) a public official,  
276 (ii) a state employee, or (iii) a spouse of a public official or state  
277 employee, to such official, employee or spouse, provided such benefits  
278 are customarily and ordinarily provided to others in similar  
279 circumstances;

280 (P) Anything having a value of not more than [ten] twenty dollars,  
281 provided the aggregate value of all things provided by a donor to a  
282 recipient under this subdivision in any calendar year does not exceed  
283 [fifty] one hundred dollars; or

284 (Q) Training that is provided by a vendor for a product purchased by  
285 a state or quasi-public agency that is offered to all customers of such  
286 vendor.

287 Sec. 6. Subdivision (12) of section 1-91 of the general statutes is  
288 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
289 *1, 2025*):

290 (12) "Lobbyist" means a person who in lobbying and in furtherance  
291 of lobbying makes or agrees to make expenditures, or receives or agrees  
292 to receive compensation, reimbursement, or both, and such  
293 compensation, reimbursement or expenditures are three thousand  
294 dollars or more in any calendar year or the combined amount thereof is  
295 three thousand dollars or more in any such calendar year. "Lobbyist"  
296 does not include:

297 (A) A public official, employee of a branch of state government or a  
298 subdivision thereof, including an official or employee of a quasi-public  
299 agency, or elected or appointed official of a municipality or his or her  
300 designee other than an independent contractor, who is acting within the  
301 scope of his or her authority or employment;

302 (B) A publisher, owner or an employee of the press, radio or  
303 television while disseminating news or editorial comment to the general  
304 public in the ordinary course of business;

305 (C) An individual representing himself or herself or another person  
306 before the legislature or a state agency other than for the purpose of  
307 influencing legislative or administrative action;

308 (D) Any individual or employee who receives no compensation or  
309 reimbursement specifically for lobbying and who limits his or her  
310 activities solely to formal appearances to give testimony before public  
311 sessions of committees of the General Assembly or public hearings of  
312 state agencies and who, if he or she testifies, registers his or her  
313 appearance in the records of such committees or agencies;

314 (E) A member of an advisory board acting within the scope of his or  
315 her appointment;

316 (F) A senator or representative in Congress acting within the scope of  
317 his or her office;

318 (G) Any person who receives no compensation or reimbursement

319 specifically for lobbying and who spends no more than five hours in  
320 furtherance of lobbying unless such person (i) exclusive of salary,  
321 receives compensation or makes expenditures, or both, of three  
322 thousand dollars or more in any calendar year for lobbying or the  
323 combined amount thereof is three thousand dollars or more in any such  
324 calendar year, or (ii) expends [fifty] one hundred dollars or more for the  
325 benefit of a public official in the legislative or executive branch, a  
326 member of his or her staff or immediate family;

327 (H) A communicator lobbyist who receives or agrees to receive  
328 compensation, reimbursement, or both, the aggregate amount of which  
329 is less than three thousand dollars from each client in any calendar year.

330 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 1-96 of the general statutes is repealed  
331 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

332 (a) Each client lobbyist registrant shall file with the Office of State  
333 Ethics between the first and tenth day of April, July and January a  
334 financial report, signed under penalty of false statement. The April and  
335 July reports shall cover its lobbying activities during the previous  
336 calendar quarter and the January report shall cover its lobbying  
337 activities during the previous two calendar quarters. In addition to such  
338 reports, each client lobbyist registrant which attempts to influence  
339 legislative action shall file, under penalty of false statement, interim  
340 monthly reports of its lobbying activities for each month the General  
341 Assembly is in regular session, except that no monthly report shall be  
342 required for any month in which it neither expends nor agrees to expend  
343 [one] two hundred fifty dollars or more in furtherance of lobbying. Such  
344 interim monthly reports shall be filed with the Office of State Ethics no  
345 later than the tenth day of the month following the last day of the month  
346 reported. If the client lobbyist registrant is not an individual, an  
347 authorized officer or agent of the client lobbyist registrant shall sign the  
348 form. A communicator lobbyist for a municipality or any subdivision of  
349 a municipality shall file the reports described in this subsection utilizing  
350 the client lobbyist reporting schedule.

351 Sec. 8. Subsection (e) of section 1-96 of the general statutes is repealed  
352 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

353 (e) Each client lobbyist registrant financial report shall be on a form  
354 prescribed by the board and shall state expenditures made and the  
355 fundamental terms of contracts, agreements or promises to pay  
356 compensation or reimbursement or to make expenditures in furtherance  
357 of lobbying. Any such fundamental terms shall be reported once in the  
358 monthly, quarterly or post-termination report next following the  
359 entering into of such contract. Such financial report shall include an  
360 itemized statement of each expenditure of [ten] twenty dollars or more  
361 per person for each occasion made by the reporting registrant or a group  
362 of registrants which includes the reporting registrant for the benefit of a  
363 public official in the legislative or executive branch, a member of his or  
364 her staff or immediate family, itemized by date, beneficiary, amount and  
365 circumstances of the transaction. The requirement of an itemized  
366 statement shall not apply to an expenditure made by a reporting  
367 registrant or a group of registrants which includes the reporting  
368 registrant for (1) the benefit of the members of the General Assembly at  
369 an event that is a reception to which all such members are invited or all  
370 members of a region of the state, as such term is used in subparagraph  
371 (K) of subdivision (7) of section 1-91, as amended by this act, are invited,  
372 unless the expenditure is [thirty] sixty dollars or more per person, or (2)  
373 benefits personally and directly received by a public official or state  
374 employee at a charitable or civic event at which the public official or  
375 state employee participates in his or her official capacity, unless the  
376 expenditure is [thirty] sixty dollars or more per person, per event. If the  
377 compensation is required to be reported for an individual whose  
378 lobbying is incidental to his or her regular employment, it shall be  
379 sufficient to report a prorated amount based on the value of the time  
380 devoted to lobbying. On the first financial report following registration  
381 each client lobbyist registrant shall include any expenditures incident to  
382 lobbying activities that were received or expended prior to registration  
383 and not previously reported to the Office of State Ethics.

384 Sec. 9. Subsection (g) of section 1-96 of the general statutes is repealed  
385 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

386 (g) Each former registrant shall (1) report receipts or expenditures  
387 incident to lobbying activities during his or her period of registration  
388 which are received or expended following termination of registration  
389 and (2) report each expenditure of [ten] twenty dollars or more per  
390 person for each occasion made by [him] such registrant for the benefit  
391 of a public official or a member of such official's immediate family or  
392 staff which occurs within six months after termination of registration.

393 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 1-96a of the general statutes is  
394 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
395 *1, 2025*):

396 (a) Each registrant shall obtain and preserve all accounts, bills,  
397 receipts and other documents necessary to substantiate the financial  
398 reports required by section 1-96, as amended by this act, for a period of  
399 three years from the date of the filing of the report referring to such  
400 financial matters, provided this section shall apply to each expenditure  
401 for the benefit of a public official of [ten] twenty dollars or more and all  
402 other expenditures of [fifty] one hundred dollars or more.

403 Sec. 11. Section 1-96e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
404 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

405 Each registrant who pays or reimburses a public official or state  
406 employee [ten] twenty dollars or more for necessary expenses, as  
407 defined in section 1-79, as amended by this act, shall, within forty-five  
408 days, file a statement with the Office of State Ethics indicating the name  
409 of such individual and the amount of the expenses.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-79(5)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-84(i)

Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-84(o)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-91(6)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-91(7)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-91(12)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-96(a)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-96(e)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-96(g)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-96a(a)
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-96e

***Statement of Purpose:***

To increase the monetary thresholds for various prohibitions, requirements or other additional conditions under the State Codes of Ethics.

***[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.]***