



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 9159



Offered by:  
SEN. FLEXER, 29<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 1227

File No. 126

Cal. No. 115

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

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

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4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  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

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

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

12 (B) Services provided by persons volunteering their time, if provided  
13 to aid or promote the success or defeat of any political party, any

14 candidate or candidates for public office or the position of convention  
15 delegate or town committee member or any referendum question;

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

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

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

29 (F) A certificate, plaque or other ceremonial award costing less than  
30 [one] three hundred dollars;

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

33 (H) Printed or recorded informational material germane to state  
34 action or functions;

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

40 (J) Food or beverage or both, costing less than [fifty] one hundred  
41 dollars per person and consumed at a publicly noticed legislative  
42 reception to which all members of the General Assembly are invited and

43 which is hosted not more than once in any calendar year by a lobbyist  
44 or business organization. For the purposes of such limit, (i) a reception  
45 hosted by a lobbyist who is an individual shall be deemed to have also  
46 been hosted by the business organization which such lobbyist owns or  
47 is employed by, and (ii) a reception hosted by a business organization  
48 shall be deemed to have also been hosted by all owners and employees  
49 of the business organization who are lobbyists. In making the  
50 calculation for the purposes of such [fifty-dollar] one-hundred-dollar  
51 limit, the donor shall divide the amount spent on food and beverage by  
52 the number of persons whom the donor reasonably expects to attend the  
53 reception;

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

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

75 (M) Gifts costing less than [one] three hundred dollars in the

76 aggregate or food or beverage provided at a hospitality suite at a  
77 meeting or conference of an interstate legislative association, by a  
78 person who is not a registrant or is not doing business with the state of  
79 Connecticut;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

140 made in violation of this subsection shall be voidable by a court of  
141 competent jurisdiction if the suit is commenced not later than one  
142 hundred eighty days after the making of the contract.

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

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

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

162 Sec. 4. Subdivision (6) of section 1-91 of the general statutes is  
163 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
164 *1, 2025*):

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

221 (F) A certificate, plaque or other ceremonial award costing less than  
222 [one] three hundred dollars;

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

225 (H) Printed or recorded informational material germane to state  
226 action or functions;

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

232 (J) Food or beverage or both, costing less than [fifty] one hundred



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

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

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

266 dollars in value;

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

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

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

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

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

289 Sec. 6. Subdivision (12) of section 1-91 of the general statutes is  
290 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
291 *1, 2025*):

292 (12) "Lobbyist" means a person who in lobbying and in furtherance  
293 of lobbying makes or agrees to make expenditures, or receives or agrees  
294 to receive compensation, reimbursement, or both, and such  
295 compensation, reimbursement or expenditures are three thousand

dollars or more in any calendar year or the combined amount thereof is three thousand dollars or more in any such calendar year. "Lobbyist" does not include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(G) Any person who receives no compensation or reimbursement specifically for lobbying and who spends no more than five hours in furtherance of lobbying unless such person (i) exclusive of salary, receives compensation or makes expenditures, or both, of three thousand dollars or more in any calendar year for lobbying or the combined amount thereof is three thousand dollars or more in any such

326 calendar year, or (ii) expends [fifty] one hundred dollars or more for the  
327 benefit of a public official in the legislative or executive branch, a  
328 member of his or her staff or immediate family;

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

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

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

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

355 (e) Each client lobbyist registrant financial report shall be on a form  
356 prescribed by the board and shall state expenditures made and the

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

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

388 (g) Each former registrant shall (1) report receipts or expenditures  
389 incident to lobbying activities during his or her period of registration

390 which are received or expended following termination of registration  
 391 and (2) report each expenditure of [ten] twenty dollars or more per  
 392 person for each occasion made by [him] such registrant for the benefit  
 393 of a public official or a member of such official's immediate family or  
 394 staff which occurs within six months after termination of registration.

395 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 1-96a of the general statutes is  
 396 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
 397 *1, 2025*):

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

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

407 Each registrant who pays or reimburses a public official or state  
 408 employee [ten] twenty dollars or more for necessary expenses, as  
 409 defined in section 1-79, as amended by this act, shall, within forty-five  
 410 days, file a statement with the Office of State Ethics indicating the name  
 411 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