



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 323

February Session, 2026



AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS FOR REVISIONS TO THE STATE CODES OF ETHICS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 1-80 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (d) The board shall elect a chairperson who shall, except as provided
5 in subsection (b) of section 1-82 and subsection (b) of section 1-93,
6 preside at meetings of the board and a vice-chairperson to preside in the
7 absence of the chairperson. [Six] Five members of the board shall
8 constitute a quorum. Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection
9 (a) of section 1-81, subsections (a) and (b) of section 1-82, subsection (b)
10 of section 1-88, subsection (e) of section 1-92, subsections (a) and (b) of
11 section 1-93 and subsection (b) of section 1-99, a majority vote of the
12 members shall be required for action of the board. The chairperson or
13 any three members may call a meeting.

14 Sec. 2. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 1-83 of the general statutes
15 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
16 *October 1, 2026*):

17 (a) (1) All state-wide elected officers, members of the General
18 Assembly, department heads and their deputies, members or directors

19 of each quasi-public agency, members of the Investment Advisory
20 Council and such other members of the Executive Department and such
21 employees of quasi-public agencies as the Governor shall require, shall
22 file electronically with the Office of State Ethics using the software
23 created by the office, under penalty of false statement, a statement of
24 financial interests for the preceding calendar year on or before the May
25 first next in any year in which they hold such an office or position. If, in
26 any year, May first falls on a weekend or legal holiday, such statement
27 shall be filed not later than the next business day. Any such individual
28 who leaves his or her office or position shall file electronically a
29 statement of financial interests covering that portion of the year during
30 which such individual held his or her office or position. The Office of
31 State Ethics shall notify such individuals of the requirements of this
32 subsection not later than sixty days after their departure from such
33 office or position. Such individuals shall file such statement
34 electronically not later than sixty days after receipt of the notification.

35 (2) Each state agency, department, board and commission shall
36 develop and implement, in cooperation with the Office of State Ethics,
37 an ethics statement as it relates to the mission of the agency, department,
38 board or commission. The executive head of each such agency,
39 department, board or commission shall be directly responsible for the
40 development and enforcement of such ethics statement and shall file a
41 copy of such ethics statement with the Office of State Ethics.

42 (b) (1) The statement of financial interests, except as provided in
43 subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall include the following
44 information for the preceding calendar year in regard to the individual
45 required to file the statement and the individual's spouse and
46 dependent children residing in the individual's household: (A) The
47 names of all businesses with which associated; (B) all sources of income,
48 including the name of each employer, with a description of the type of
49 income received, in excess of one thousand dollars, without specifying
50 amounts of income; (C) the name of securities in excess of five thousand
51 dollars at fair market value owned by such individual, spouse or
52 dependent children or held in the name of a corporation, partnership or

53 trust for the benefit of such individual, spouse or dependent children;
54 (D) the existence of any known blind trust and the names of the trustees;
55 (E) all real property and its location, whether owned by such individual,
56 spouse or dependent children or held in the name of a corporation,
57 partnership or trust for the benefit of such individual, spouse or
58 dependent children; (F) the names and addresses of creditors to whom
59 the individual, the individual's spouse or dependent children,
60 individually, owed debts of more than ten thousand dollars; (G) any
61 leases or contracts with the state or a quasi-public agency held or
62 entered into by the individual or a business with which he or she was
63 associated; and (H) the name of any of the following that is a partner or
64 owner of, or has a similar business affiliation with, the business included
65 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision: (i) Any lobbyist, (ii) any
66 person the individual filing the statement knows or has reason to know
67 is doing business with or seeking to do business with the state or is
68 engaged in activities that are directly regulated by the department or
69 agency in which the individual is employed, or (iii) any business with
70 which such lobbyist or person is associated.

71 (2) In the case of securities in excess of five thousand dollars at fair
72 market value held within (A) a retirement savings plan, as described in
73 Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent
74 corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended
75 from time to time, (B) a tax-sheltered annuity retirement plan, as
76 described in Section 403 of said Internal Revenue Code, (C) a payroll
77 deduction individual retirement account plan, as described in Section
78 408 or 408A of said Internal Revenue Code, [(C)] (D) a governmental
79 deferred compensation plan, as described in Section 457 of said Internal
80 Revenue Code, or [(D)] (E) an education savings plan, as described in
81 Section 529 of said Internal Revenue Code, the names of such securities
82 shall not be required to be disclosed in any statement of financial
83 interests and only the name of such retirement savings plan, tax-
84 sheltered annuity retirement plan, individual retirement account plan,
85 deferred compensation plan or education savings plan holding such
86 securities shall be required.

87 Sec. 3. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 1-84 of the 2026
88 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
89 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

90 (a) No public official or state employee shall, while serving as such,
91 have any financial interest in, or engage in, any business, employment,
92 transaction or professional activity, which is in substantial conflict with
93 the proper discharge of [his] such official's or employee's duties or
94 employment in the public interest and of [his] such official's or
95 employee's responsibilities as prescribed in the laws of this state, as
96 defined in section 1-85, as amended by this act.

97 (b) No public official or state employee shall accept other
98 employment which will either impair [his] such official's or employee's
99 independence of judgment as to [his] such official's or employee's
100 official duties or employment or require [him, or induce him] or induce
101 such official or employee, to disclose confidential information acquired
102 by [him] such official or employee in the course of and by reason of [his]
103 such official's or employee's official duties.

104 (c) No public official or state employee shall wilfully and knowingly
105 disclose, for financial gain, to any other person, confidential information
106 acquired by [him] such official or employee in the course of and by
107 reason of [his] such official's or employee's official duties or
108 employment and no public official or state employee shall use [his] such
109 official's or employee's public office or position or any confidential
110 information received through [his] such official's or employee's holding
111 such public office or position to obtain financial gain for [himself, his]
112 such official or employee, such official's or employee's spouse, child,
113 child's spouse, parent, brother or sister or a business with which he is
114 associated.

115 Sec. 4. Section 1-85 of the general statutes is repealed and the
116 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

117 (a) (1) For purposes of this section, "business with which the public
118 official or state employee is associated" has the same meaning as

119 "business with which he is associated", as provided in section 1-79.

120 (2) A public official, including an elected state official, or state
121 employee has an interest which is in substantial conflict with the proper
122 discharge of [his] such official's or employee's duties or employment in
123 the public interest and of [his] such official's or employee's
124 responsibilities as prescribed in the laws of this state, if [he] such official
125 or employee has reason to believe or expect that [he, his] any of the
126 following persons will derive a direct monetary gain or suffer a direct
127 monetary loss, as the case may be, by reason of such official's or
128 employee's official activity: The official or employee, or such official's or
129 employee's spouse, [a] dependent child, or [a business with which he is
130 associated will derive a direct monetary gain or suffer a direct monetary
131 loss, as the case may be, by reason of his official activity] nonstate
132 employer or the nonstate employer of the official's or employee's
133 spouse, or a business with which the public official or state employee is
134 associated, except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection.

135 (3) In the case of an elected state official, such official only has a
136 substantial conflict regarding a matter concerning such elected official's
137 nonstate employer or the nonstate employer of such official's spouse or
138 a business with which the official is associated, if such official has actual
139 knowledge, rather than has reason to believe or expect, that such
140 nonstate employer or business will derive a direct monetary gain or
141 suffer a direct monetary loss, as the case may be, by reason of the official
142 activity of such official.

143 (4) A public official, including an elected state official, or state
144 employee does not have an interest which is in substantial conflict with
145 the proper discharge of [his] such official's or employee's duties in the
146 public interest and of [his] such official's or employee's responsibilities
147 as prescribed by the laws of this state, if any benefit or detriment accrues
148 to [him, his] such official or employee, such official's or employee's
149 spouse, [a] dependent child [,] or nonstate employer, the nonstate
150 employer of the official's or employee's spouse or a business with which
151 [he, his spouse or such dependent child] the public official or state

152 employee is associated as a member of a profession, occupation or
153 group to no greater extent than any other member of such profession,
154 occupation or group. [A] Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
155 section and subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 1-86, as amended
156 by this act, a public official, including an elected state official or state
157 employee who has a substantial conflict may not take official action on
158 the matter.

159 (b) If an elected state official has a substantial conflict regarding a
160 matter that concerns a direct monetary gain or direct monetary loss for
161 the nonstate employer of such official or the nonstate employer of such
162 official's spouse, such official shall either excuse himself or herself from
163 the matter or, prior to taking official action on the matter, prepare a
164 written statement, on a form prescribed by the Office of State Ethics and
165 signed under penalty of false statement, describing the matter requiring
166 action, the nature of the conflict and explaining why, despite the
167 conflict, such official is able to vote or otherwise participate fairly,
168 objectively and in the public interest in such matter. Such official shall
169 submit a copy of such statement to the Office of State Ethics and enter a
170 copy of the statement in the journal or minutes of the state agency to
171 which such official has been elected, or, if such agency does not have a
172 journal or minutes, submit the copy to such agency.

173 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 1-86 of the general statutes is repealed
174 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

175 (a) (1) For purposes of this section, "business with which such public
176 official or employee is associated" has the same meaning as "business
177 with which he is associated", as provided in section 1-79.

178 [(a)] (2) Any public official or state employee, other than an elected
179 state official, who, in the discharge of such official's or employee's
180 official duties, would be required to take an action that would affect a
181 financial interest of such official or employee, such official's or
182 employee's spouse, parent, brother, sister, child, [or] the spouse of a
183 child, nonstate employer, nonstate employer of the official's or

184 employee's spouse or a business with which such official or employee is
185 associated, other than an interest of a de minimis nature, an interest that
186 is not distinct from that of a substantial segment of the general public or
187 an interest in substantial conflict with the performance of official duties,
188 as defined in section 1-85, as amended by this act, has a potential conflict
189 of interest.

190 [Under such circumstances, such official or employee shall, if] (3) If
191 such official or employee is a member of a state regulatory agency, such
192 official or employee shall either excuse himself or herself from the
193 matter or, prior to taking official action on the matter, prepare a written
194 statement on a form prescribed by the Office of State Ethics and signed
195 under penalty of false statement, describing the matter requiring action
196 and the nature of the potential conflict and explaining why despite the
197 potential conflict, such official or employee is able to vote [and] or
198 otherwise participate fairly, objectively and in the public interest in such
199 matter. Such public official or state employee shall [deliver] submit a
200 copy of the statement to the Office of State Ethics and enter a copy of the
201 statement in the journal or minutes of the agency or, if such agency does
202 not have a journal or minutes, submit the copy to such agency.

203 (4) If such official or employee is not a member of a state regulatory
204 agency, [such official or employee shall,] in the case of either a
205 substantial or potential conflict [,] that would affect a financial interest
206 of such official or employee, such official's or employee's spouse, parent,
207 brother, sister, child or the spouse of a child or a business with which
208 such official or employee is associated, such official or employee shall
209 prepare a written statement signed under penalty of false statement
210 describing the matter requiring action and the nature of the conflict and
211 [deliver] submit a copy of the statement to such official's or employee's
212 immediate [superior] supervisor, if any, who shall assign the matter to
213 another employee, or if such official or employee has no immediate
214 [superior] supervisor, such official or employee shall take such steps as
215 the Office of State Ethics shall prescribe or advise.

216 (5) In the case of either a substantial or potential conflict that would

217 affect a financial interest of the official's or employee's nonstate
 218 employer, or the nonstate employer of the official's or employee's
 219 spouse, such official or employee shall either (A) excuse himself or
 220 herself from the matter, or (B) prior to taking official action on the
 221 matter, prepare a written statement on a form prescribed by the Office
 222 of State Ethics and signed under penalty of false statement, describing
 223 the matter requiring action and the nature of the conflict and either (i)
 224 explaining why despite the conflict, such official or employee is able to
 225 vote or otherwise participate fairly, objectively and in the public interest
 226 in such matter, (ii) stating that the official or employee has been directed
 227 to continue work on the matter by such official's or employee's
 228 supervisor in the agency after disclosing the substantial or potential
 229 conflict to such supervisor, or (iii) both. Such official or employee shall
 230 submit a copy of the statement in the journal or minutes of the agency
 231 or, if such agency does not have a journal or minutes, submit the copy
 232 to such agency.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	1-80(d)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	1-83(a) and (b)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	1-84(a) to (c)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	1-85
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	1-86(a)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 3(b), "his" was changed to "such official's or employee's" for consistency.

GOS *Joint Favorable Subst.*