

Session 126 - (2025-2026)

S 0632 General Bill, By Bennett, Alexander, Peeler, Rankin, Williams, Grooms and Jackson

Summary: Ethics - Local Government Lobbying

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-10, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO AMEND THE DEFINITIONS OF "LOBBYING," "LOBBYIST," "PUBLIC BODY," "PUBLIC EMPLOYEE," AND "PUBLIC OFFICIAL," AND TO ADD THE DEFINITIONS OF "COVERED LOCAL GOVERNING BODY ACTIONS" AND "LOCAL GOVERNING BODY"; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-15, RELATING TO PERSONS PROHIBITED FROM SERVING AS LOBBYISTS, SO AS TO INCLUDE MEMBERS OF LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-20, RELATING TO REGISTRATION OF LOBBYISTS, SO AS TO INCLUDE COVERED LOCAL GOVERNING BODY ACTIONS AND TO REQUIRE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION TO PUBLISH AN ONLINE LIST OF REGISTERED LOBBYISTS; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-25, RELATING TO REGISTRATION OF LOBBYISTS' PRINCIPALS, SO AS TO INCLUDE COVERED LOCAL GOVERNING BODY ACTIONS AND TO REQUIRE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION TO PUBLISH AN ONLINE LIST OF REGISTERED LOBBYISTS' PRINCIPALS; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-30, RELATING TO REPORTING OF LOBBYISTS' ACTIVITIES, SO AS TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-35, RELATING TO LOBBYISTS' PRINCIPALS' REPORTING OF LOBBYING EXPENDITURES, SO AS TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-40, RELATING TO STATE AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT REPORTING OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES, SO AS TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-45, RELATING TO REPORTS REQUIRED OF CERTAIN ENTITIES, SO AS TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-80, RELATING TO PROHIBITED ACTS FOR LOBBYISTS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND EMPLOYEES, SO AS TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-90, RELATING TO ACTS PROHIBITED OF LOBBYISTS' PRINCIPALS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND EMPLOYEES AND DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-100, RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS, SO AS TO INCLUDE THE CHAIRMEN OF LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-110, RELATING TO ADDITIONAL ACTS PROHIBITED OF LOBBYISTS AND LOBBYISTS' PRINCIPALS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, SO AS TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 2-17-130, RELATING TO PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER, SO AS TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES.

05/01/25 Senate Introduced and read first time

05/01/25 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary