



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 103

PRINTERS NO. 56 **PRIME SPONSOR:** Cutler

FUND: General

COST / (SAVINGS)

FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12
\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends Title 65 (Public Officers) in lobbying disclosure by increasing penalties, both administratively and criminally, on lobbyists for violations of the law. This legislation would take effect immediately.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would increase administrative penalties for unlawful acts from \$2,000 to \$10,000. Under this legislation, committing an unlawful act may prohibit a lobbyist from lobbying for economic consideration up to 10 years from the current 5 year penalty.

The bill would also increase penalties for negligent failure to register or report from the current \$50 for each late day to \$250 for each late day.

This legislation would also increase penalties for intentional violations. Intentional failure to register or report, results in a misdemeanor of the first degree instead of the current second degree misdemeanor. A registrant who intentionally reports a false or incomplete statement commits a first degree misdemeanor up from a second degree misdemeanor. In addition to the other penalties listed above, the court may impose fines up to \$100,000, an increase from the current \$25,000. In addition to any criminal penalties stated above, a person who commits an offense under this section may be barred to lobby for economic consideration up to 10 years from the current 5 year penalty.

FISCAL IMPACT: This bill will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: February 7, 2011

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.