
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2519 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY WALSH, METCALFE, DEAN, STEPHENS, BARRAR, THOMAS,
DUNBAR, RYAN, SACCONI, CALTAGIRONE AND BERNSTINE,
JUNE 20, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 20, 2018

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in ethics standards and financial
3 disclosure, further providing for definitions, for restricted
4 activities, for statement of financial interests and for
5 penalties.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 1102 of Title 65 of the Pennsylvania
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition to read:

10 § 1102. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
12 shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the
13 meanings given to them in this section:

14 * * *

15 "Cash." United States currency and coin and foreign currency
16 and coin.

17 * * *

18 Section 2. Section 1103 of Title 65 is amended by adding a
19 subsection to read:

1 § 1103. Restricted activities.

2 * * *

3 (c.1) Accepting a gift of cash.--

4 (1) No public official, public employee or nominee or
5 candidate for public office shall solicit or accept any gift
6 of cash.

7 (2) This subsection shall not apply to any gift or gifts
8 received from a spouse, parent, parent by marriage, sibling,
9 child, grandchild, other family member or friend when the
10 circumstances make it clear that the motivation for the
11 action was a personal or family relationship.

12 (3) For the purposes of this subsection, the term
13 "friend" shall not include a registered lobbyist or an
14 employee of a registered lobbyist.

15 * * *

16 Section 3. Section 1105(b) and (c) of Title 65 are amended
17 and the section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

18 § 1105. Statement of financial interests.

19 * * *

20 (b) Required information.--The statement shall include the
21 following information for the prior calendar year with regard to
22 the person required to file the statement:

23 (1) Name, address and public position.

24 (2) Occupation or profession.

25 (3) Any direct or indirect interest in any real estate
26 which was sold or leased to the Commonwealth, any of its
27 agencies or political subdivisions, or purchased or leased
28 from the Commonwealth, any of its agencies or political
29 subdivisions, or which was the subject of any condemnation
30 proceedings by the Commonwealth, any of its agencies or

1 political subdivisions.

2 (4) The name and address of each creditor to whom is
3 owed in excess of \$6,500 and the interest rate thereon.
4 However, loans or credit extended between members of the
5 immediate family and mortgages securing real property which
6 is the principal or secondary residence of the person filing
7 shall not be included.

8 (5) The name and address of any direct or indirect
9 source of income totaling in the aggregate \$1,300 or more.
10 However, this provision shall not be construed to require the
11 divulgence of confidential information protected by statute
12 or existing professional codes of ethics or common law
13 privileges.

14 (6) The name and address of the source and the amount of
15 any gift [or gifts valued in the aggregate at \$250 or] of
16 more than \$50 and the circumstances of each gift. This
17 paragraph shall not apply to a gift or gifts received from a
18 spouse, parent, parent by marriage, sibling, child,
19 grandchild, other family member or friend when the
20 circumstances make it clear that the motivation for the
21 action was a personal or family relationship. However, for
22 the purposes of this paragraph, the term "friend" shall not
23 include a registered lobbyist or an employee of a registered
24 lobbyist.

25 (7) The name and address of the source and the amount of
26 any payment for or reimbursement of an actual [expenses]
27 expense for transportation and lodging or hospitality
28 received in connection with public office or employment where
29 such actual [expenses] expense for transportation and lodging
30 or hospitality [exceed \$650 in an aggregate amount per year]

1 exceeds \$100. This paragraph shall not apply to expenses
2 reimbursed by a governmental body or to expenses reimbursed
3 by an organization or association of public officials or
4 employees of political subdivisions which the public official
5 or employee serves in an official capacity.

6 (8) Any office, directorship or employment of any nature
7 whatsoever in any business entity.

8 (9) Any financial interest in any legal entity engaged
9 in business for profit.

10 (10) The identity of any financial interest in a
11 business with which the reporting person is or has been
12 associated in the preceding calendar year which has been
13 transferred to a member of the reporting person's immediate
14 family.

15 (b.1) Voluntary information.--A person required to file a
16 statement of financial interests may voluntarily report a gift,
17 payment or reimbursement that is below the monetary threshold
18 for reporting under subsection (b) (6) or (7).

19 (c) Reporting amounts.--Except [where an amount is] as
20 required to be reported pursuant to subsection (b) (6) and (7),
21 the statement of financial interests need not include specific
22 amounts for the items required to be listed.

23 * * *

24 Section 4. Section 1109(a) of Title 65 is amended to read:
25 § 1109. Penalties.

26 (a) Restricted activities violation.--Any person who
27 violates the provisions of section 1103(a), (b) [and (c)], (c)
28 and (c.1) (relating to restricted activities) commits a felony
29 and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of not
30 more than \$10,000 or to imprisonment for not more than five

1 years, or both.

2 * * *

3 Section 5. This act shall take effect as follows:

4 (1) The following provisions shall take effect
5 immediately:

6 (i) The addition of the definition of "cash" in 65
7 Pa.C.S. § 1102 and the amendment or addition of 65
8 Pa.C.S. §§ 1103(c.1) and 1109(a).

9 (ii) This section.

10 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect in 60
11 days.