

Please Support HB 19-1248 - Lobbyist Transparency Act
(Reps. Weissman & Cutter)

The Problem - Research & Public Opinion on Lobbying Disclosure

- In 2015, the Sunlight Foundation gave Colorado a “C” for lobbyist transparency¹
- In 2015, the Center for Public Integrity gave Colorado a “D” for lobbying disclosure²
- A March 2018 CAP / Hart Research survey found that ¾ favor greater lobbyist transparency³

The Solution - More Frequent & More Consistent Reporting

1. **More frequent reporting**
 - 48 hour reporting of relevant information by professional lobbyists during regular & special session
2. **Lobbying is lobbying**
 - Clarify that lobbying activity by an attorney is NOT attorney-client confidential activity – it’s lobbying, just like lobbying by a non-attorney
3. **Clarify who the client is**
 - The client is whoever’s position is being advanced in the capitol, not the lobbyist’s business or a sub-contractor

Summary of the Bill

- Sec 1 – short title
- Sec 2 – clarify definition of “client”
- Sec 3
 - (6.5) during regular or special session — **i.e. when legislation is being actively developed, amended, and voted on** — require 48 hour reporting of changes in lobbying activity – new bills or positions
 - (8) – attorneys must report lobbying activity
 - (9) – further clarification of “client” for reporting purposes
- Sec 4 – effective date – allowing SOS time to make necessary changes to reporting system

What HB 1248 Does Not Change

- Ability of any entity to retain one or more lobbyists
- Lobbyists ability to advocate for their clients
- Existing disclosure requirements for lobbyists

¹ <https://sunlightfoundation.com/2015/08/12/how-transparent-is-your-states-lobbying-disclosure/>

² <https://publicintegrity.org/accountability/colorado-gets-d-grade-in-2015-state-integrity-investigation/>

³ <https://cdn.americanprogress.org/content/uploads/2018/05/23125644/TrustInGovernment-report1.pdf>