

DEFINITIONS

“Employer of a lobbyist” or **“employer”** means any person or entity that employs, retains or otherwise arranges for a lobbyist to engage in lobbying on behalf of the person or entity for compensation. “Employer of a lobbyist” or “employer” specifically includes any such person or entity notwithstanding the lobbyist's status as an employee, agent, contractor, subcontractor or other representative lobbying on behalf of such person or entity for compensation. “Employer of a lobbyist” or “employer” does not include the individual employees, officers, directors, or members of a corporation, labor organization, association, or membership organization other than the chief executive officer and the chief financial officer or comparable individuals within such corporation, labor organization, association, or membership organization. For purposes of employer registration and disclosure pursuant to this part, a lobbying firm is not deemed to be the employer of any lobbyist within the firm. (T.C.A. § 3-6-301(8))

“Gift” means any payment, honorarium, subscription, loan, advance, forbearance, rendering or deposit of money or services, unless consideration of equal or greater value is received. “Gift” does not include a campaign contribution otherwise reported as required by law, a commercially reasonable loan made in the ordinary course of business, or a gift received from a member of the person's immediate family or from a relative within the third degree of consanguinity of the person or of the person's spouse, or from the spouse of any such relative. “Gift” does not include the waiver of a registration fee for a conference or educational seminar. (T.C.A. § 3-6-301(11))

“Immediate family” means a spouse or minor child living in the household. (T.C.A. § 3-6-301(12))

“Lobby” means to communicate, directly or indirectly, with any official in the legislative branch or executive branch for the purpose of influencing any legislative action or administrative action. (T.C.A. § 3-6-301(16)(A))

“Lobbyist” means any person who engages in lobbying for compensation. (T.C.A. § 3-6-301(18))

“Official in the executive branch” means the governor, any member of the governor's staff, any member or employee of a state regulatory commission, including, without limitation, directors of the Tennessee regulatory authority, or any member or employee of any executive department or agency or other state body in the executive branch. “Official in the executive branch” also includes any administrative governmental official or employee of any county exercising the authority set forth in § 8-17-103(b). (T.C.A. § 3-6-301(20))

“Solicit” means to entreat, to implore, to ask, to attempt, or to try to obtain. (T.C.A. § 3-6-301(24))