

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 97

By: Sacchieri

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; defining terms; prohibiting state agencies from contracting with lobbyists or hiring legislative liaisons for certain purposes; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4263 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. For the purposes of this section:

1. "Executive lobbyist" means any individual who is employed or retained by another for financial or other compensation to perform services that include executive lobbying, other than an individual whose lobbying activities are only incidental to, and are not a significant part of, the services provided by such individual to the client, except the following individuals shall not be considered executive lobbyists:

1           a.    an individual appearing before a state officer or  
2                employee of an agency who receives no compensation for  
3                his or her appearance other than reimbursement from  
4                the state for expenses and who engages in no further  
5                lobbying, and

6           b.    any person exercising his or her constitutional right  
7                to petition the government who receives no  
8                compensation or anything of value for lobbying;

9           2.    "Legislative liaison" means any state officer or employee  
10           whose duties in fact include legislative lobbying, regardless of the  
11           state officer or employee's title and regardless of whether  
12           legislative lobbying is included within the state officer or state  
13           employee's job description, other than an individual whose lobbying  
14           activities are only incidental to, and are not a significant part  
15           of, the services provided by such individual to the agency;

16           3.    "Legislative lobbyist" means any individual who is employed  
17           or retained by another for financial or other compensation to  
18           perform services that include legislative lobbying, other than an  
19           individual whose lobbying activities are only incidental to, and are  
20           not a significant part of, the services provided by such individual  
21           to the client, except the following individuals shall not be  
22           considered legislative lobbyists:

23           a.    an individual appearing before the Governor or a  
24                meeting of a legislative body who receives no  
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1 compensation for his or her appearance other than  
2 reimbursement from the state for expenses and who  
3 engages in no further lobbying, and

4 b. any person exercising his or her constitutional right  
5 to petition the government and who receives no  
6 compensation or anything of value for lobbying;

7 4. "Lobbyist" means a lobbyist principal, an executive  
8 lobbyist, or a legislative lobbyist;

9 5. "Lobbyist principal" means any person or entity, including  
10 an agency, who employs or retains another person for financial or  
11 other compensation to conduct executive or legislative lobbying  
12 activities on behalf of the lobbyist principal; provided, however,  
13 it shall not mean any individual members, partners, officers, or  
14 shareholders of an agency, corporation, association, firm, joint  
15 venture, joint stock company, syndicate, business trust, estate,  
16 trust, company, partnership, limited partnership, organization,  
17 committee, club, or a group of persons who are voluntarily acting in  
18 concert; and

19 6. "State agency" means a state agency as defined pursuant to  
20 Section 327 of Title 61 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

21 B. No state agency shall:

22 1. Enter into any new, or renew any existing, contract or any  
23 other agreement with a lobbyist for the purpose of lobbying; or

24 2. Hire a legislative liaison for the purpose of lobbying,  
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1 unless the agency first secures express, written approval from the  
2 appropriate cabinet secretary who oversees the state agency.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.  
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