

1 S.93

2 Representatives Wright of Burlington and Komline of Dorset move that the  
3 House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended as follows:

4 First: In Sec. 1 (findings), by adding a new subsection to be subsection (f)  
5 to read:

6 (f) Prohibiting lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers from  
7 contributing to legislative leadership political committees while the General  
8 Assembly is in session ensures that the prohibition on contributions to  
9 legislators set forth in 2 V.S.A. § 266 (prohibited conduct) is not circumvented,  
10 since legislative leadership political committees are intertwined with  
11 legislators in those political committees' support of legislators.

12 Second: By striking out Sec. 8 (effective date) in its entirety and inserting  
13 in lieu thereof the following:

14 Sec. 8. 2 V.S.A. § 266 is amended to read:

15 § 266. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

16 (a) It shall be prohibited conduct:

17 (1) to employ a lobbyist or lobbying firm, or accept employment as a  
18 lobbyist or lobbying firm, for compensation that is dependent on a  
19 contingency;

20 (2) for a legislator or administrative official to solicit a gift, other than a  
21 ~~political~~ contribution, from a registered employer or registered lobbyist or a

1 lobbying firm engaged by an employer, except that charitable contributions for  
2 nonprofit organizations qualified under ~~Section 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3) of the~~  
3 ~~federal Internal Revenue Code~~ may be solicited from registered employers and  
4 registered lobbyists or lobbying firms engaged by an employer; or

5 (3)(A) when the ~~general assembly~~ General Assembly is in session, until  
6 adjournment sine die;

7 (i) for a legislator, a legislator's candidate's committee, a  
8 legislative leadership political committee, or an administrative official to  
9 solicit a ~~political campaign~~ contribution as defined in ~~17 V.S.A. § 2801~~ from a  
10 registered lobbyist, a registered employer, or a lobbying firm engaged by an  
11 employer ~~or registered employer;~~ or

12 (ii) for a registered lobbyist ~~or,~~ registered employer, or a lobbying  
13 firm engaged by an employer to make or promise a ~~political campaign~~  
14 contribution to ~~any member of the general assembly or any member's~~  
15 ~~campaign~~ a legislator, a legislator's candidate's committee, or a legislative  
16 leadership political committee.

17 (b) As used in this section, "candidate's committee," "contribution," and  
18 "legislative leadership political committee" shall have the same meanings as in  
19 17 V.S.A. § 2901.

1 Sec. 9. 17 V.S.A. § 2901 is amended to read:

2 § 2901. DEFINITIONS

3 As used in this chapter:

4 \* \* \*

5 (13) “Political committee” or “political action committee” means any  
6 formal or informal committee of two or more individuals or a corporation,  
7 labor organization, public interest group, or other entity, not including a  
8 political party, which accepts contributions of \$1,000.00 or more and makes  
9 expenditures of \$1,000.00 or more in any two-year general election cycle for  
10 the purpose of supporting or opposing one or more candidates, influencing an  
11 election, or advocating a position on a public question in any election, and  
12 includes an independent expenditure-only political committee and a legislative  
13 leadership political committee.

14 \* \* \*

15 (19) “Legislative leadership political committee” means a political  
16 committee established by or on behalf of a political party caucus within a  
17 chamber of the General Assembly.

1 Sec. 10. 17 V.S.A. § 2922 is amended to read:

2 § 2922. POLITICAL COMMITTEES; REGISTRATION; CHECKING  
3 ACCOUNT; TREASURER

4 (a)(1) Each political committee shall register with the Secretary of State  
5 within 10 days of making expenditures of \$1,000.00 or more and accepting  
6 contributions of \$1,000.00 or more stating its full name and address; the name  
7 and address of the bank in which it maintains its campaign checking account;  
8 and the name and address of the treasurer responsible for maintaining the  
9 checking account.

10 (2)(A) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this  
11 subsection, a legislative leadership political committee shall designate in its  
12 registration that it is established as a legislative leadership political committee.

13 (B) The Secretary of State shall provide on his or her website a list of  
14 all legislative leadership political committees that have been designated as  
15 provided in this subdivision (2).

16 \* \* \*

17 Sec. 11. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION; EXISTING LEGISLATIVE  
18 LEADERSHIP POLITICAL COMMITTEES

19 (a) A legislative leadership political committee in existence immediately  
20 prior to the effective date of this act shall update its registration with the

1 Secretary of State as provided in Sec. 10, 17 V.S.A. § 2922(a)(2), of this act on  
2 or before July 15, 2015.

3 (b) As used in this section, “legislative leadership political committee”  
4 shall have the same meaning as set forth in Sec. 9, 17 V.S.A. § 2901(19), of  
5 this act.

6 Sec. 12. EFFECTIVE DATE

7 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.