

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs to which
3 was referred House Bill No. 686 entitled “An act relating to expanding
4 identification of certain lobbying advertisements” respectfully reports that it
5 has considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking
6 out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. § 261 is amended to read:

8 § 261. DEFINITIONS

9 As used in this chapter:

10 * * *

11 (9) “Lobby” or “lobbying” means:

12 (A) to communicate ~~orally or in writing~~ with any legislator or
13 administrative official for the purpose of influencing legislative or
14 administrative action;

15 (B) solicitation of others to influence legislative or administrative
16 action;

17 (C) an attempt to obtain the goodwill of a legislator or administrative
18 official by communications or activities with that legislator or administrative
19 official intended ultimately to influence legislative or administrative action; or

20 (D) activities sponsored by an employer or lobbyist on behalf of or
21 for the benefit of the members of an interest group, if a principal purpose of the

1 activity is to enable such members to communicate ~~orally~~ with one or more
2 legislators or administrative officials for the purpose of influencing legislative
3 or administrative action or to obtain their goodwill.

4 * * *

5 Sec. 2. 2 V.S.A. § 264c is amended to read:

6 § 264c. IDENTIFICATION IN AND REPORT OF CERTAIN LOBBYING
7 ADVERTISEMENTS

8 (a) Identification.

9 (1) An advertisement that is intended, designed, or calculated to
10 influence legislative action or to solicit others to influence legislative action
11 and that is made at any time ~~prior to final adjournment of a biennial or~~
12 ~~adjourned legislative session~~ shall contain the name of any lobbyist, lobbying
13 firm, or lobbyist employer that made an expenditure for the advertisement and
14 language that the advertisement was paid for, or paid in part, by the lobbyist,
15 lobbying firm, or lobbyist employer; provided, however:

16 * * *

17 (c) Definitions. As used in this section:

18 (1) “Advertisement” means a notice or communication that:

19 (A) appears in any ~~of the following~~ public media: including radio,
20 television, newspapers ~~or~~ and other periodicals, or ~~internet~~ websites; or

1 (B) is widely disseminated to the public, including mass mailings,
2 robotic phone calls, and paid internet communications.

3 (2) “Advertising campaign” means advertisements substantially similar
4 in nature, regardless of the media in which they are placed.

5 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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10 (Committee vote: _____)

11

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE