

1 Amend 2 Cal. Code Regs. Section 18616 to read:

2 **§ 18616. Reports by Lobbyist Employers and Persons Spending \$5,000 or More to**

3 **Influence Legislative or Administrative Action.**

4 (a) Payments to be Reported in General. Persons filing periodic reports under Section  
5 86116 must report payments in the following categories:

6 (1) Payments to lobbying firms.

7 (2) Payments to lobbyists.

8 (3) Activity expenses.

9 (4) Other payments to influence legislative or administrative action, specifically,  
10 payments for or in connection with:

11 (A) Support or assistance of lobbyists;

12 (B) Direct communication with a legislative, agency, or elective state official for the  
13 primary purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action; and

14 (C) Soliciting or urging persons other than the filer or the filer's employees to enter into  
15 direct communication with a legislative, agency, or elective state official for the primary purpose  
16 of influencing legislative or administrative action.

17 (5) Contributions to elected state officers, state candidates, and committees controlled by  
18 or primarily formed to support or oppose those officers or candidates.

19 (b) Payments to Lobbying Firms. Lobbyist employers must disclose on their periodic  
20 reports the total amount of payments, including reimbursement for expenses, made to each  
21 lobbying firm during the period, and the name and address of the lobbying firm that received the  
22 payments. If the payment to the lobbying firm was made through another person, the lobbyist  
23 employer must report the name and address of both the payee and the lobbying firm. The

1 lobbyist employer must indicate on the report if the payment was made for services provided in a  
2 previous calendar quarter. To the extent that payments to a lobbying firm are only partially in  
3 connection with lobbying activities, the lobbyist employer must report only that portion which  
4 was made for lobbying activities.

5 (c) Payments to Lobbyists. Lobbyist employers must disclose on their periodic reports the  
6 total amount of all direct and indirect payments, such as salaries and reimbursement of expenses,  
7 made to lobbyists during the filing period in consideration for or in connection with their  
8 activities as lobbyists. A lobbyist's salary includes gross wages paid plus any benefits that are in  
9 lieu of wages such as the granting of stock options or the purchase of annuities. A lobbyist's  
10 salary does not include routine fringe benefits that are made on behalf of all employees, such as  
11 the employer's contribution to health or retirement plans, or similar benefits; nor does it include  
12 the payment of the employer's payroll taxes. To the extent payments made to a lobbyist are only  
13 partially in connection with ~~his or her~~ activities as a lobbyist, a filer may apportion the payments  
14 based on the percentage of the lobbyist's compensated time that is spent influencing or  
15 attempting to influence legislative or administrative action.

16 (d) Activity Expenses. All persons filing reports under Section 86116 must disclose each  
17 activity expense made or incurred during the period, regardless of whether it is paid for during  
18 the period. An activity expense previously reported as incurred but not paid need not be reported  
19 again when actual payment is made. When reporting activity expenses, the filer must disclose:  
20 the full name and address of the payee, the total amount of the expense, the amount attributable  
21 to each elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, state candidate or member of the  
22 immediate family of one of those persons who is the beneficiary of an activity expense, each

1 official's full name, title and agency, and a description of the benefit. The filer must also report  
2 the total of all activity expenses incurred during the period.

3 (e) Contributions.

4 (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), all persons filing periodic reports under Section  
5 86116 must disclose all monetary and non-monetary contributions totaling \$100 or more made  
6 by the filer to state candidates, elected state officers, and committees controlled by or primarily  
7 formed to support or oppose those officers or candidates. For each reportable contribution, the  
8 filer must disclose the date the contribution was made, the candidate, officer, or committee  
9 receiving the contribution, and the amount of the contribution.

10 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if a filer has made contributions totaling \$100 or more  
11 to an elected state officer, state candidate, or a committee controlled by or primarily formed to  
12 support or oppose an elected state officer or state candidate, and the filer or a committee  
13 sponsored by the filer has previously reported those contributions in a campaign statement filed  
14 with the Secretary of State, the filer may disclose only the name and identification number of its  
15 committee on its periodic report in lieu of the information required by paragraph (1) with respect  
16 to those contributions.

17 (f) Other Payments to Influence Legislative or Administrative Action. All persons who  
18 file periodic reports under Section 86116 must report the total of all other payments to influence  
19 legislative or administrative action made by the filer during the reporting period, and effective  
20 July 1, 2016, must disclose information regarding payments of \$2,500 or more as provided  
21 below.

22 (1) The total amount reported must include the following:

1 (A) Compensation of Employees Other Than Lobbyists. This includes a proportionate  
2 share of the compensation paid to employees other than lobbyists who are engaged for 10  
3 percent or more of their compensated time in a calendar month in or in connection with the  
4 activities described in subdivision (a)(4) of this regulation. Such employees include those  
5 providing research services and those preparing materials to be used by a lobbyist or to be used  
6 in direct communication or in soliciting or urging others to engage in direct communication for  
7 the primary purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action. Compensation includes  
8 gross wages paid plus any benefits that are in lieu of wages such as the granting of stock options  
9 or the purchase of annuities. Compensation does not include routine fringe benefits that are made  
10 on behalf of all employees, such as the employer's contribution to health or retirement plans, nor  
11 does it include the payment of the employer's payroll taxes.

12 (B) Payments Other Than Compensation. This includes payments made by the filer for:

13 (i) Expenses incurred by a lobbyist in connection with ~~his or her~~ activities as a lobbyist.

14 All such expenses paid directly by the filer must be reported as “other payments to influence  
15 legislative or administrative action,” regardless of the nature of the expense.

16 (ii) Expenses incurred by the filer for goods or services used by a lobbyist or used to  
17 support or assist a lobbyist in connection with ~~his or her~~ activities as a lobbyist.

18 (iii) Other expenses that would not have been incurred but for the filer's activities to  
19 influence or attempt to influence legislative or administrative action, such as those activities  
20 described in subdivision (a)(4) of this regulation, including office overhead and operating  
21 expenses, payments to expert witnesses, and expenses incurred by employees other than a  
22 lobbyist. However, any expenses associated with office overhead and operating expenses,  
23 including rent, utilities, office supplies and subscriptions to legislative tracking services should

1 not be itemized under subdivision (f)(2), but must be listed on a separate form provided by the  
2 Commission as a lump sum.

3 (2) Other Payments to Influence of \$2,500 or more. Other payments to influence made by  
4 the filer during the reporting period totaling \$2,500 or more to a payee must be listed on a  
5 separate form provided by the Commission and submitted with the report required under Section  
6 86116. The filer must disclose:

7 (A) The name and business address of the payee;

8 (B) The total payments made during the reporting period;

9 (C) The cumulative amount paid during the calendar year; and

10 (D) One of the following codes to describe the primary purpose of the payment:

11 (i) [S] for salary and compensation of employees other than lobbyists as defined under  
12 subdivision (f)(1)(A);

13 (ii) [E] for expenses incurred by a lobbyist and paid directly by the filer, or expenses  
14 incurred by the filer for goods or services used by a lobbyist or used to support or assist a  
15 lobbyist in connection with ~~his or her~~ activities as a lobbyist;

16 (iii) [L] for legislative related-services performed by a lobbying firm in the absence of  
17 express or implied authorization to engage in direct communication related to researching,  
18 monitoring, analyzing or drafting statutes, or recommending strategy, providing advice, or  
19 similar services concerning pending or proposed legislative or administrative action under  
20 Regulation 18614(b)(2);

21 (iv) [C] for consultants and government relations, including all contracts for economic  
22 consideration with a business entity or individual, other than a lobbying firm or lobbyist, to  
23 provide governmental consulting, advocacy, or strategy;

1 (v) [P] for public affairs, including coalition building, grassroots campaigns and public  
2 policy initiatives including news releases, media campaigns, literature and mailings, canvassing,  
3 and special events;

4 (vi) [A] for advertising, including billboards, print, radio, television, text, email and other  
5 electronic advertising;

6 (vii) [R] for research, including feasibility studies, analysis, polling, and public opinion  
7 research;

8 (viii) [V] for lobbying events, including event planning, rentals, equipment, and  
9 transportation for members of organizations or the public to meet public officials, hold rallies or  
10 attend hearings to influence legislative or administrative action;

11 (ix) [O] for all other payments not covered by one of the above listed categories.

12 (g) Exceptions.

13 (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (f) of this regulation, a filer need not report  
14 compensation or other payments for services that are solely secretarial, clerical, or manual or are  
15 limited solely to the compilation of data and statistics.

16 (2) Except for payments to lobbyists and the compensation of employees other than  
17 lobbyists that must be reported under subdivision (f)(1)(A), a filer need not report any regular,  
18 ongoing business overhead that would continue to be incurred in substantially similar amounts  
19 regardless of the filer's activities to influence legislative or administrative action.

20 (3) A filer does not have to report any part of the costs of producing a regularly published  
21 newsletter or periodical whose circulation is limited to an organization's members, employees,  
22 shareholders, other affiliated individuals and those who request or purchase the publication. This  
23 exception applies only to those costs regularly incurred in publishing and distributing the

1 newsletter or periodical. If additional costs are incurred because the newsletter or periodical is  
2 issued on other than its regular schedule, expanded in circulation, or altered in style, size, or  
3 format for the primary purpose of influencing or attempting to influence legislative or  
4 administrative action, such additional costs are reportable under subdivision (f)(1)(B).

5 (4) Except as provided in Section 86116.5, which is applicable to all state and local  
6 agencies that file reports pursuant to Sections 86115 and 86116, dues or similar payments made  
7 by any person for membership in a bona fide association, including any federation,  
8 confederation, or trade, labor, or membership organization, some portion of which is used to  
9 influence legislative or administrative action, are not payments to influence legislative or  
10 administrative action.

11 (5) Reduced Reporting. In lieu of reporting expenses in accordance with subdivision (f), a  
12 filer that makes payments to influence a ratemaking or quasi-legislative proceeding, as defined in  
13 Section 82002(b) or (c), before the California Public Utilities Commission may report the total of  
14 any payments made for the following:

15 (A) Compensation paid to all attorneys for time spent appearing as counsel and preparing  
16 to appear as counsel in those proceedings, excluding time spent preparing written testimony for  
17 those proceedings

18 (B) Compensation paid to all witnesses for time spent testifying; and preparing to testify  
19 in those proceedings, excluding time spent preparing written testimony for those proceedings;  
20 and,

21 (C) For purposes of subdivision (g)(5), “compensation” has the same meaning as in  
22 subdivision (f)(1).

1 (D) The reduced reporting of Section 86116(h)(2) and this subdivision does not apply to  
2 payments to an individual who is a lobbyist under Section 82039, to payments for expenses  
3 incurred by that individual or to payments described in subdivision (a)(4)(C).

4 (h) Optional Reporting. In addition to reporting total payments for any period, a filer may  
5 apportion payments reported on the basis of whether they were made to influence legislative  
6 action or to influence administrative action.

7 (i) Applicability of Section 86115(b). For the purpose of determining whether Section  
8 86115(b) is applicable to any person, all payments made during any calendar quarter that are  
9 required to be reported by this regulation should be combined and a report must be filed if the  
10 total is \$ 5,000 or more. If, however, the only reportable payments made are activity expenses  
11 under Section 86111(a), no report is required.

12 (j) Reporting Specific Lobbying Interests.

13 (1) The filer must report each bill or administrative action with regard to which a partner,  
14 owner, officer or employee of the filer, or a lobbying firm with which the filer has contracted,  
15 either has engaged in direct communication, or has been directed by the filer to engage in direct  
16 communication, with a qualified official for the purpose of influencing legislative or  
17 administrative action on behalf of the filer during the reporting period, either by reference to its  
18 legislative or administrative identification number or by brief textual description.

19 (2) A filer should not report bills or administrative actions that have died prior to the  
20 reporting period, bills or administrative actions that the filer or its agent is only watching or  
21 monitoring, or bills or administrative actions that the filer or its agent has not attempted to  
22 influence during the reporting period.



1           (3) The definitions contained in Regulation 18239 of the terms “direct communication,”  
2 “qualifying official,” and “influence legislative action” apply to this subdivision.  
3 Note: Authority cited: Section 83112, Government Code. Reference: Sections 86115, 86116 and  
4 86116.5, Government Code.