

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 13-0249
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: President Young, Councilmembers Henry, Holton, Spector, Reisinger, Scott,
Clarke, Middleton, Cole, Kraft, Stokes, Branch, Welch, Curran

Introduced and read first time: July 15, 2013

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Board of Ethics, Department of Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Ethics – Lobbying Registration Fees**

3 FOR the purpose of setting the filing fee for lobbying registration forms at \$100; clarifying and
4 conforming related provisions; and generally relating to lobbying registration.

5 BY repealing and reordaining, with amendments

6 Article 8 - Ethics
7 Section(s) 3-23
8 Baltimore City Code
9 (Edition 2000)

10 BY adding

11 Article 8 - Ethics
12 Section(s) 8-14
13 Baltimore City Code
14 (Edition 2000)

15 BY renumbering

16 Article 8 - Ethics
17 Section(s) 8-14
18 to be
19 Section(s) 8-15
20 Baltimore City Code
21 (Edition 2000)

22 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
23 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

24 **Baltimore City Code**

25 **Article 8. Ethics**

26 **Subtitle 3. Administration**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 **§ 3-23. Filing fees.**

2 (a) *In general.*

3 [(1)] Except as OTHERWISE specified [in paragraph (2) of this subsection] IN THIS
4 ARTICLE, the Ethics Board may charge reasonable filing fees for statements,
5 reports, and other documents filed under this article.

6 (B) *NO FEES FOR TIMELY FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS.*

7 [(2)] The Board may not charge a fee for a disclosure statement timely filed under
8 Subtitle 7 {"Financial Disclosure"} of this article.

9 [(b)] (C) *Late fees.*

10 The fees charged may include late fees for any document that is filed after the applicable
11 deadline.

12 **Subtitle 8. Lobbying**

13 **§ 8-14. REGISTRATION FILING FEE.**

14 EACH LOBBYING REGISTRATION MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A FILING FEE OF \$100.

15 [~~§ 8-14.~~] **§ 8-15. Termination of registration.**

16 (a) *Automatic termination.*

17 Unless sooner terminated under subsection (b) of this section, each registration terminates
18 on the earlier of:

19 (1) the December 31 that first follows the registration's filing; or

20 (2) the date specified in a written authorization filed under § 8-11 {"Employer
21 authorization required"} of this subtitle.

22 (b) *Termination by lobbyist.*

23 A lobbyist may terminate the registration as of an earlier date than that specified in
24 subsection (a) of this section if the lobbyist:

25 (1) ceases all activity that requires registration;

26 (2) after ceasing all activity, files a notice of termination with the Ethics Board; and

27 (3) within 30 days after filing the notice, files all reports required by this subtitle.

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1 (c) *Required termination on appointment as public servant.*

2 (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, if a lobbyist is or becomes
3 subject to regulation under this article as a public servant, the lobbyist must:

4 (i) immediately cease all activity that requires registration; and

5 (ii) terminate his or her registration in accordance with subsection (b) of this
6 section within 30 days of becoming a public servant:

7 (A) file a notice of termination with the Ethics Board; and

8 (B) file all reports required by this subtitle.

9 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to a lobbyist appointed to an advisory
10 body of limited duration.

11 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
12 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
13 Ordinance.

14 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
15 after the date it is enacted.