
MEMORANDUM

TO: THE LOBBYING COMMISSION
FROM: THE LOBBYING BUREAU, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
SUBJECT: AGGREGATE LOBBYING REVENUES REPORTED FROM 2007-2010 AND FORECAST OF LOBBYING REVENUE IF THE REPORTING THRESHOLD IS RAISED
DATE: APRIL 26, 2011

The following is a summary of lobbying data reported from 2007 through 2010 including the number of lobbyist entities registered and the revenue they reported. Outlined below are the predicted total number of lobbyist registrants and their estimated total reported revenue if the reporting threshold was increased to \$5,000 and \$10,000, respectively. All calculations are based upon the number of entities in our database that reported exceeding the current threshold for reportable lobbying (expending, incurring or receiving in excess of \$2,000 of reportable compensation and expenses in a given year). Several entities routinely register and file every year despite consistently reporting revenues under the threshold. An underlying assumption of this report is that these entities would not continue to report if the threshold was raised. All calculations are based upon the reports filed with this office, and therefore do not capture those entities engaged in unreported lobbying.

I. **2007 Reported Lobbying Compensation:**

- **\$2,000 reporting threshold:** 250 of 307 lobbyists¹ reported exceeding the \$2,000 threshold² and collectively reported \$54,532,389 in cumulative lobbying compensation.³
- **\$5,000 reporting threshold:**⁴ 215 registered lobbyists would have reported \$54,418,193.32 in compensation, a decrease of 35 lobbyists (-14.00%) and \$114,195.68 in lobbying compensation (-0.21%).
- **\$10,000 reporting threshold:** 182 registered lobbyists would have reported \$54,182,381.34 in compensation, a decrease of 68 lobbyists (-27.20%) and \$350,007.66 in compensation (-0.64%).

¹ "Lobbyists" as used throughout the document, refers to "lobbyist entities," because a statement of registration is completed in the name of the lobbyist entity, not the individual lobbyists.

² Of the 307 registered lobbyists, 57 registered despite not exceeding the \$2,000 threshold. Such lobbyists reported \$42,559 in compensation for 2007.

³ The lobbying compensation listed throughout this document refers to cumulative lobbying compensation reported by the lobbyist entity in the given calendar year.

⁴ Each extrapolation is based upon our data and assumes that the registration of all lobbyists who exceed the \$5,000 and \$10,000 reporting threshold, respectively.

II. **2008 Reported Lobbying Compensation:**

- **\$2,000 reporting threshold:** 254 of the 339 lobbyists registered exceeded the \$2,000 threshold and collectively reported \$61,040,877 in compensation.⁵
- **\$5,000 reporting threshold:** 216 registered lobbyists would have reported \$60,916,724.90 in compensation, a decrease of 38 lobbyists (-14.96%) and \$124,152.10 in lobbying compensation (-0.20%).
- **\$10,000 reporting threshold:** 182 registered lobbyists would have reported \$60,664,461.26 in compensation, a decrease of 72 lobbyists (-28.35%) and \$376,415.74 in compensation (-0.62%).

III. **2009 Reported Lobbying Compensation**

- **\$2,000 reporting threshold:** 256 of the 354 lobbyists registered exceeded the \$2,000 threshold and collectively reported \$53,636,722.86 in compensation.⁶
- **\$5,000 reporting threshold:** 213 registered lobbyists would have reported \$53,505,369 in compensation, a decrease of 43 lobbyists (-16.80%) and \$131,353.86 in lobbying compensation (-0.25%).
- **\$10,000 reporting threshold:** 187 registered lobbyists would have reported \$53,302,439 in compensation, a decrease of 69 lobbyists (-26.95%) and \$334,283.86 in compensation (-0.62%).

IV. **2010 Reported Lobbying Compensation**

- **\$2,000 reporting threshold:** 263 of the 365 lobbyists registered exceeded the \$2,000 threshold and collectively reported \$49,453,227 in compensation.⁷
- **\$5,000 reporting threshold:** 224 registered lobbyists would reported \$49,133,800 in compensation, a decrease of 39 lobbyists (-14.83%) and \$319,427 in lobbying compensation (-0.65%).
- **\$10,000 reporting threshold:** 182 registered lobbyists would have reported \$48,826,189 in compensation, a decrease of 81 lobbyists (-30.80%) and \$627,038 in compensation (-1.27%).

⁵ Of the 339 registered lobbyists, 85 registered despite not exceeding the \$2,000 threshold. Such lobbyists reported \$54,717 in compensation for 2008.

⁶ Of the 354 registered lobbyists, 98 registered despite not exceeding the \$2,000 threshold. Such lobbyists reported \$57,619 in compensation for 2009.

⁷ Of the 365 registered lobbyists, 102 registered despite not exceeding the \$2,000 threshold. Such lobbyists reported \$67,189 in compensation for 2010.