G2 0lr0424 CF HB 190

By: Senator Kelley

AN ACT concerning

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5-601.

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2020

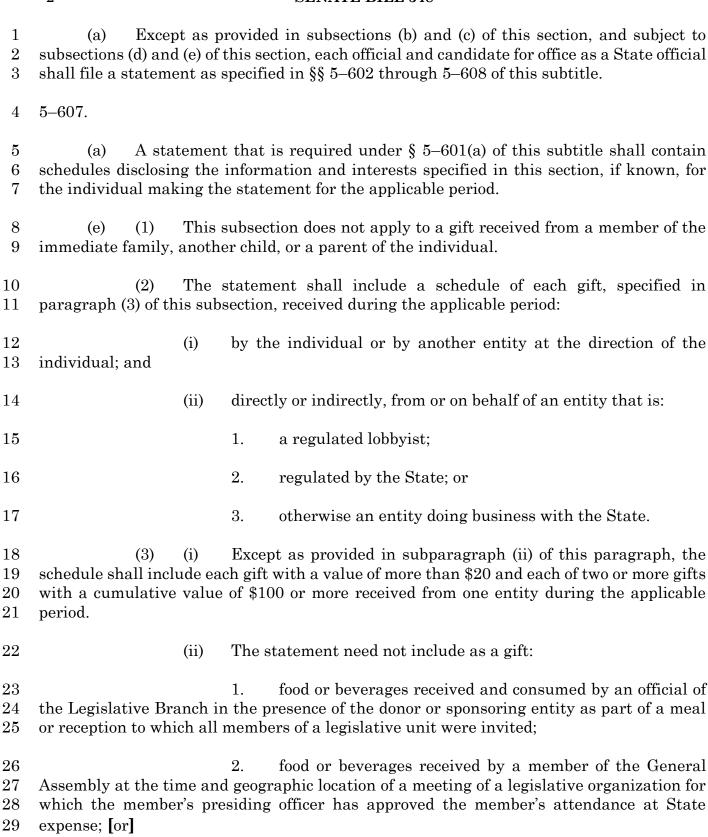
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

## A BILL ENTITLED

2 Public Ethics - Officials and Lobbyists - Reporting of Ceremonial Gifts and 3 Awards of Insignificant Monetary Value 4 FOR the purpose of providing that an official need not disclose the acceptance of a 5 ceremonial gift or award of insignificant monetary value on a financial disclosure 6 statement; providing that a regulated lobbyist need not allocate and report by name 7 the individual recipients of ceremonial gifts and awards of insignificant monetary 8 value on a lobbying activities report; and generally relating to disclosure of gifts and 9 public ethics. 10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, 11 Article – General Provisions 12 Section 5–601(a), 5–607(a), and 5–705(a) Annotated Code of Maryland 13 14 (2019 Replacement Volume) 15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, 16 Article – General Provisions Section 5–607(e) and 5–705(c) 17 18 Annotated Code of Maryland 19 (2019 Replacement Volume) 20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, 21 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - General Provisions





30 a ticket or free admission extended to a member of the General Assembly by the person sponsoring or conducting the event as a courtesy or ceremony to the office to attend a

charitable, cultural, or political event to which all members of a legislative unit were invited; **OR** 

## 4. A CEREMONIAL GIFT OR AWARD OF INSIGNIFICANT MONETARY VALUE.

- 5 (iii) The statement shall include the acceptance of each of two or more 6 tickets or free admissions, extended to a member of the General Assembly by the person 7 sponsoring or conducting the event, with a cumulative value of \$100 or more received from 8 one entity during the applicable period.
- 9 (4) For each gift subject to this subsection, the schedule shall include:
- 10 (i) the nature and value of the gift; and
- 11 (ii) the identity of the entity from which the gift was received, 12 whether directly or indirectly.
- 13 (5) This subsection does not authorize acceptance of a gift not otherwise 14 allowed by law.
- 15 5–705.

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- 16 (a) (1) A regulated lobbyist shall file electronically with the Ethics Commission, under oath and for each registration, a separate report concerning the regulated lobbyist's lobbying activities:
- 19 (i) by May 31 of each year, to cover the period from November 1 of 20 the previous year through April 30 of the current year; and
- 21 (ii) by November 30 of each year, to cover the period from May 1 22 through October 31 of that year.
- 23 (2) If the regulated lobbyist is not an individual, an authorized officer or agent of the regulated lobbyist shall sign the report.
- 25 (3) If a prorated amount is reported as compensation, it shall be labeled as 26 prorated.
- (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a report required under this section also shall include the name of each official, employee, or member of the immediate family of an official or employee who has benefited from one or more gifts with a cumulative value of \$75 during the reporting period from the regulated lobbyist, regardless of whether the gift:
  - (i) is attributable to more than one entity; or

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1	(ii) was given in connection with lobbying activity.
2 3	(2) The following gifts need not be allocated to individual recipients and reported by name:
4 5	(i) gifts reported under subsection (b)(2)(vii) and (viii) of this section;
6 7	(ii) gifts reported under subsection (b)(2)(ix) of this section with a value of \$200 or less; [and]
8 9 10	(iii) gifts reported under subsection (b)(2)(x) of this section, unless the recipient received from the regulated lobbyist during the reporting period two or more such gifts with a cumulative value of at least $100$ ; AND
11 12	(IV) CEREMONIAL GIFTS AND AWARDS OF INSIGNIFICANT MONETARY VALUE.
13 14	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.