

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Bureau of Commissions, Elections & Legislation
January 12, 2007**



SUBJECT: New Online Filing for Lobbying Disclosure Registration Statements and New Instructions, Updates to Instructions for Paper or Email Lobbying Disclosure Registration Statements and Updates to Frequently Asked Questions for Act 134 on Lobbying Disclosure

TO: Lobbyists Registered in 2006

**FROM: Harry A. VanSickle
Commissioner**

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The Office of Administration, in consultation with the Department of State, has developed a new online filing for Lobbying Disclosure Registration Statements and new instructions. You may access the Web site at <http://www.dos.state.pa.us> and selecting "Lobbying Disclosure" on the left navigation bar. If you decide to file registration statements on the new online filing system, then you must continue to file all lobbying disclosure registration statements and reporting forms electronically for the remainder of the calendar year, in compliance with section 1310-A(c) of Act 134 of 2006.

Since December 22, 2006, when the Department first placed its paper and email registrations on its Web site, the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation at the Department of State has received numerous questions regarding the Lobbying Disclosure Registration Statements for Lobbyists, Lobbying Firms and Principals. In our continuing effort to provide service to the lobbying community by answering many of the questions being asked, we are updating the Instructions for the Registration Statements for Lobbyists, Lobbying Firms and Principals for the current paper or email filing system, as well as the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), that appear on the Department of State's Web site, <http://www.dos.state.pa.us>. Once there, proceed to the left navigation bar and select "Lobbying Disclosure."

Furthermore, in addition to providing a link to the "slip law" copy of Act 134 in our FAQs, we are also including a Word Document of an **unofficial copy** of the portion of Act 134 that sets forth the Lobbying Disclosure Law. The Department of State and the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission (Commission) are providing a Word Document so that you can easily search the Act for terms or copy and paste relevant portions into documents that you may wish to prepare for your clients.

Because we plan to continue this process of updating our Instructions and the Frequently Asked Questions, we are placing a date in the upper right hand corner on these documents so that you can readily see which is the most recent copy. At this time, we do not plan to send further notices that the Department is making changes to its Instructions or Frequently Asked Questions, so you may wish to check our Web site on a regular basis.

For additional questions, comments or suggestions, please contact the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation at the Department by email at RA-LobbyDisclosure@state.pa.us or by telephone at (717) 787-5280.

For official advice regarding compliance with the Act, contact the Ethics Commission at 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470. For informal advice, contact the Commission by telephone at 1-800-932-0936 or (717) 783-1610 although the Commission does not issue official advisories by telephone. Also please be aware that the answers to these questions may be changed by regulations that will be drafted by the Lobbying Disclosure Regulation Committee, which will hold its first meeting on January 23, 2006 at 2:30 PM in the 16th floor conference room in Strawberry Square. The meetings of the Committee are open to the public, and notices for all meetings will be posted on the Department's Web site.