

ASSEMBLY, No. 719

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON
District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Extends from one to two years after leaving employment period during which Executive Branch department heads cannot act as governmental affairs agent.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** limiting registration of certain Executive Branch officers as
2 governmental affairs agents and amending P.L.2004, c.34.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2004, c.34 (C.52:13C-21.4) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. **【As used in this section, "person" means any】** No
10 member of the Legislature, **【the】** Governor, **【the】** or Lieutenant
11 Governor **【or the head of a principal department of the Executive**
12 **Branch】** unless serving as the head of a principal department of the
13 Executive Branch, within one year next subsequent to the
14 termination of the office of such person, shall register as a
15 "governmental affairs agent" as defined in section 3 of P.L.1971,
16 c.183 (C.52:13C-20).

17 b. No **【person】** head of a principal department of the Executive
18 Branch, including the Lieutenant Governor if serving as the head of
19 a principal department of the Executive Branch, within **【one year】**
20 two years next subsequent to the termination of the office or
21 employment of such person, shall register as a "governmental
22 affairs agent" as defined in section 3 of P.L.1971, c.183 (C.52:13C-
23 20).

24 c. Any person who knowingly and willfully violates the
25 provisions of **【subsection b. of】** this section shall be subject to a
26 penalty of not more than \$10,000 and shall be barred from activities
27 prohibited under **【subsection b.】** this section for up to an additional
28 five years.

29 d. Upon receiving evidence of any violation of this section, the
30 Election Law Enforcement Commission shall have the power to
31 hold, or to cause to be held, hearings about the violation and, upon
32 finding any person to have committed a violation, to assess such
33 penalty, within the limits prescribed herein, as it deems proper
34 under the circumstances, which penalty may be collected in a
35 summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of
36 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).
37 (cf: P.L.2009, c.66, s.39)

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39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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44 This bill would prohibit the head of a principal department in the
45 Executive Branch from registering as a governmental affairs agent

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

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1 for a period of two years after leaving office. Under current law,
2 heads of principal departments in the Executive Branch are
3 prohibited from registering as a governmental affairs agent for one
4 year after leaving office.

5 The Lieutenant Governor is included in the prohibition if the
6 Lieutenant Governor served as the head of a principal department of
7 the Executive Branch.