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Oregon Senate promotes transparency for lobbyist-client relationships

HB 4134 tightens timelines for reporting which clients a lobbyist represents

SALEM – The Oregon Senate today passed a bill designed to improve government transparency by requiring quicker reporting of client-lobbyist relationships.

House Bill 4134 – which passed the Senate on a 28-0 vote – requires lobbyists to register with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission within three business days after exceeding a total of 24 hours spent lobbying, spending a total amount more than \$100 lobbying during any calendar quarter and after the first day appearing or working for a person or entity the lobbyist is not registered to represent.

Current law requires lobbyists to register with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission within 10 business days after exceeding all of those thresholds. In addition, a lobbyist is required to file a statement within 10 business days after agreeing to provide personal services for money or any other consideration for the purpose of lobbying. SB 4134 moves the current deadline up seven days.

“This bill will do a lot for transparency in our ethics filings regarding lobbyist and client relationships,” Sen. Diane Rosenbaum (D-Portland) said. “Lobbyists are an important part of our process and this bill comes to us from the Governor, as one of her priorities. It’s a good transparency and accountability bill.”

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