THE ARVISOR

High moral and ethical standards are essential to assure the trust, respect, and confidence of the people of Alaska.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

Adopted October 13, 2022

ADVISORY OPINION 2022-01

The Select Committee on Legislative Ethics adopted Advisory Opinion 22-01 at the October 13, 2022, committee meeting. **Full text of the Advisory Opinion can be found at** http://www.legis.state.ak.us/search/ethics/.

Questions Presented and Committee Findings

1. Does the Act limit a legislator or legislative employee from running for, or serving as, a constitutional convention delegate?

The Legislative Ethics Act does not prohibit a legislator or legislative employee from serving as a constitutional convention delegate.

2. Does the Act impose any limits on the solicitation or acceptance of campaign contributions by or for a candidate for constitutional convention delegate?

The Act restricts a legislator's or legislative employee's solicitation or acceptance of campaign contributions by or for a candidate for constitutional convention delegate.

3. Does the Act impose any limits on the solicitation or acceptance of contributions in support of, or opposition to, ratification?

The Act restricts a legislator's, but not a legislative employee's, solicitation or acceptance of contributions in support of, or opposition to, ratification.

4. Does the Act limit the use of legislative resources for the purpose of supporting or opposing the candidacy of one or more persons for constitutional convention dele gate?

The Act prohibits the use of legislative resources for the purpose of supporting or opposing the candidacy of a person for constitutional convention delegate.

5. Does the Act limit a legislator or legislative employee who is elected as a constitutional convention delegate using legislative resources in their official capacity as a delegate or to assist another delegate?

The Act prohibits a legislator or legislative employee who is elected as a constitutional convention delegate from using legislative resources in the person's official capacity as a delegate or to assist another delegate.

6. Does the Act impose any transparency requirements on legislators or legislative employees with respect to, support of, opposition to, or participation in the constitutional convention process?

The Act's general transparency requirements, including the requirement to disclose board membership, apply to legislators and legislative employees with respect to the constitutional convention process.



Committee Members

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DISCLAIMER

Information in this newsletter is given as a general overview. Your circumstances may require more specific information and advice.

Contact the Ethics Office if you have any questions as to whether your intended action is in compli-

Disclosure Notes

Agenda Required for Gifts of Travel Disclosures

At their meeting on December 17, 2021, the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics voted unanimously to require an agenda be provided when filing a disclosure under the exception in AS 24.60.080)(c)(4) for gifts of travel and hospitality primarily for obtaining information on matters of legislative concern. This is a change from previous practices where a copy of the agenda and a narrative addressing how the information obtained was a matter of legislative concern was requested, but not required.

Attach the agenda when you file your disclosure. If you do not provide an agenda for a travel and hospitality event, you will be required to repay to the donor organization the amount gifted for the travel and hospitality. Failure to provide an agenda or to repay the gifted amount of money could be considered a violation of the Legislative Ethics Act as a prohibited gift under AS 24.60.080(a).

Contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 for more information.

File Ethics Disclosures Online

It's Easy!

- Go to http://intranet.akleg.gov/ & scroll down to click on *Login* in the *File an Ethics Disclosure* section.
- 2. Enter the filer's computer login (not email address) and password. NOTE: If the filer is a legislator, use the legislator's computer login and password.
- 3. Click on *Sign in*.
- 4. Click on the type of disclosure you want to file.
- 5. Complete the form using drop down menus when available. (Remember, gifts of travel are for the purpose of obtaining information about matters of legislative concern. Provide complete information about the donor, a one or two sentence narrative that addresses how the information obtained is a matter of legislative concern, and attach a copy of the agenda.)
- 5. Check your completed disclosure and click "Proceed."
- 7. Review your disclosure and if correct, press "Submit."

Need More Help Filing Your Disclosure?

Download a four-page detailed instruction handout at https://ethics.akleg.gov/disclosures.php or contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 or 907-269-8179 if you need more information.

Reminder: Disclosures Required

for New Associations

Disclosures must be filed within 30 days of the beginning of an association regardless of whether it begins during session, during a recess, or during interim.

Board memberships (within 30 days of the beginning of the association). *Example:* A legislator or legislative employee is elected to a condo association board on October 12, 2022.

Close economic associations (both parties must file a disclosure within 30 days of the beginning of the association). *Example:* A legislator purchases a piece of artwork worth \$250 or more from a legislative employee on October 15, 2022.

State Benefit and Loan Programs (within 30 days of the beginning of participation). *Example:* A legislator or legislative employee receives a new commercial fishing loan on October 7, 2022.

State Contracts, Leases, and Grants (within 30 days of the beginning of the association). *Example:* A legislator or legislative employee negotiates or renegotiates a state contract on October 14, 2022.

If you are unsure whether you need to file a disclosure, contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 or 907-269-8179.



Contact the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics

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