

1 **BY AUTHORITY**

2 ORDINANCE NO. _____
3 SERIES OF 2026

COUNCIL BILL NO. CB26-**TBD**
COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:
Community Planning and Housing

5 **A BILL**

6 **For an ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article XIII of the Denver Revised**
7 **Municipal Code concerning the regulation of lobbyists.**

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

9
10 **Section 1.** Article XIII of Chapter 2 of the Code is amended by deleting the language stricken
11 and adding the language underlined to read as follows:

12
13 **Sec. 2-300. – Legislative intent.**

14 It is the intent of the city council to ~~provide for the submission of~~ require disclosure of pertinent
15 information ~~pertaining to~~ about those persons ~~and their representatives~~ who seek to influence the
16 outcome of city legislative and administrative matters, such ~~and for that~~ information to serve as a
17 public record ~~in order that the citizens of Denver may know of municipal lobbying activities in Denver.~~

18
19 **Sec. 2-301. – Definitions.**

20 As used in this article, the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly
21 requires a different meaning:

22 (1) Administrative matter means:

23 (a) Any agency's:

24 1. Consideration, amendment, adoption, or repeal of a rule or regulation under
25 Article VI of Chapter 2; or

26 2. Final determination with respect to zoning or the use, development, or
27 improvement of real property subject to City regulation;

28 (b) The Mayor's:

29 1. Approval or veto of legislation; or

30 2. Issuance, amendment, or rescission of an executive order.

1 (2) Agency means any office, department, board, or commission established under the
2 Charter or Code of the City and County of Denver.

3 (3) Client means a person who compensates a lobbyist or a lobbying entity for the purpose
4 of engaging in lobbying on the person's behalf.

5 (4) Compensate means to pay, employ, contract with, or provide something of value in
6 return for services.

7 ~~(1)(5)~~ Communicating means transmitting Communication includes, but is not limited to, a
8 transmittal of information, data, ideas, opinions, or anything of a similar nature, ~~on a legislative~~
9 ~~matter, by personal interview, in writing, by telephone or by other methods to a covered official,~~
10 whether in person, in writing, orally, or by any other means.

11 ~~(2)(6)~~ Covered official means members of the city council, and their appointed advisory staff
12 members; the mayor and his or her appointed advisory staff members; the auditor, the clerk and
13 recorder; members of the water board; the manager of transportation and infrastructure; the
14 manager of parks and recreation; the manager of finance; the manager of safety; the director of
15 excise and licenses; the manager of general services; the manager of human services; the manager
16 of aviation; the manager of public health and environment; the manager of community planning and
17 development; the city attorney; the chief of police; and the fire chief. any elected official in the City
18 and County of Denver, any member of the Mayor's cabinet, any appointed member of a board or
19 commission, and any individual appointed by an elected official to serve in a policy-making or
20 advisory position. Covered official does not include any career service employee of the city.

21 (3) ~~Expenditure means a payment, subscription, distribution or gift of money, or anything~~
22 ~~of value, directly connected to the purpose of lobbying as defined in this section. Expenditure does~~
23 ~~not include a contribution in-kind from an organization for the purpose of allowing a covered official to~~
24 ~~attend a function sponsored by that organization, nor does it include payment to a nonprofit~~
25 ~~organization for the purpose of allowing a covered official to attend a function of the nonprofit~~
26 ~~organization.~~

27 (7) Gift means any thing of value given without fair-market-value consideration.

28 (8) Grassroots lobbying Expenditure means an expenditure made by any person,
29 including a lobbyist or lobbying entity, to influence or encourage members of the public or other
30 persons, other than a lobbyist, to contact or communicate directly with a covered official about a
31 legislative matter or administrative matter.

1 (4)(9) Legislative matters means, but is not limited to, the drafting, introduction,
2 consideration, approval, or sponsorship of any bill, resolution, amendment, motion, nomination or
3 appointment, whether or not in writing, pending or proposed for consideration by the city council or a
4 committee thereof.

5 (5)(10) Lobbying means directly communicating, on behalf of another, with a covered official or
6 soliciting others to communicate with a covered official to influence any legislative matter or
7 administrative matter.

8 (11) Lobbyist means an individual who is compensated to engage in lobbying.

9 (12) Lobbying entity means an entity that compensates one or more individuals to lobby on
10 behalf of the entity's client, or that engages in lobbying on its own behalf.

11 (7)(13) Person means ~~an individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, public or private~~
12 ~~corporation, association, or organization. Person also means a political education, issues, or action~~
13 ~~committee or fund, as a separate entity, or which is associated with a corporation, association or~~
14 ~~organization formed principally for some other purpose, insofar as it engages in lobbying. has the~~
15 same meaning as that term is defined in section 1-2.

16

17 **Sec. 2-302. - Annual registration statement required.**

18 (a) ~~Form of statement; duty of city clerk.~~ ~~The city clerk shall prepare forms for the~~
19 ~~registration statement and other information required to be filed by this article and furnish such forms~~
20 ~~and information for use by persons subject to the requirements herein.~~

21 (b) ~~Registration required.~~ ~~All lobbyists shall file a registration statement with the city clerk~~
22 ~~within five (5) days after first engaging in lobbying; provided, however, that an individual lobbyist will~~
23 ~~be considered to have registered if the entity that employs him or her is registered and lists the~~
24 ~~individual among its lobbyists on its registration or an amendment. In every succeeding year, all~~
25 ~~lobbyists shall file an annual registration statement with the city clerk on January 15. The city clerk will~~
26 ~~make the filed registrations available to the public online within a reasonable time, not to exceed~~
27 ~~seven (7) business days from the date of receipt.~~

28 (c) ~~Information required.~~ ~~A registration statement required hereunder shall contain the~~
29 ~~following information:~~

30 (1) ~~The registrant's full name, business mailing address, email address, and city and~~
31 ~~state of residence;~~

1 (2) ~~— The name of the registrant's employer; or, if self-employed, the registrant's business~~
2 ~~or occupation; a business mailing address, and business telephone number;~~
3 (3) ~~— The names of all persons who are employed by the lobbyist to engage in lobbying;~~
4 (4) ~~— The legislative matters on which the registrant lobbies;~~
5 (5) ~~— Client information (if different from subsection (c)(2) above), including the full name,~~
6 ~~nature of business, phone number, and business street address of each client:~~
7 a. ~~— Who reimburses, retains or contracts with the registrant to lobby on a~~
8 ~~legislative matter;~~
9 b. ~~— On whose behalf the registrant lobbies on a legislative matter; and~~
10 c. ~~— By whom the registrant is paid or to be paid for such lobbying.~~
11 (6) ~~— The name of any covered official with whom the lobbyist is engaged in any business~~
12 ~~or employment relationship.~~
13 (a) Registration.
14 (1) Lobbyists. A lobbyist shall register with the city clerk within ten (10) days after the first
15 occurrence of either of the following during a calendar year:
16 a. Entering into an agreement to lobby on behalf of a client for compensation
17 exceeding one-thousand dollars (\$1,000); or
18 b. Receiving compensation for lobbying exceeding one-thousand dollars
19 (\$1,000).
20 (2) Lobbying entities. A lobbying entity shall register with the city clerk within ten (10) days
21 after the first occurrence of either of the following during a calendar year:
22 a. Compensating or subcontracting a lobbyist for lobbying activities in an amount
23 exceeding one-thousand dollars (\$1,000); or
24 b. Compensating or directing employees or other individuals, on behalf of the
25 lobbying entity, to engage in lobbying activities for a total amount exceeding one-thousand dollars
26 (\$1,000).
27 (3) Grassroots lobbying expenditures. Any person who makes grassroots lobbying
28 expenditures totaling more than five-thousand dollars (\$5,000) during a calendar year shall register
29 with the city clerk within ten (10) days after exceeding that amount.
30 (b) Lobbyist registration information. A lobbyist shall provide the following information on
31 their registration statement:

- 1 (1) The lobbyist's full name, email address, telephone number, and business address, if
2 any;
- 3 (2) A list of legislative and administrative subject areas the lobbyist expects to engage in
4 lobbying, together with a general description of the lobbyist's legislative and administrative lobbying
5 activities; and
- 6 (3) A list of all clients the lobbyist represents, including for each client:
- 7 a. The client's name and address or, if the client is a business entity, its business
8 name and business address;
- 9 b. The earlier of:
- 10 1. The date the lobbyist entered into an agreement to lobby on behalf of
11 the client; or
- 12 2. The date the lobbyist first received compensation to lobby on behalf of
13 the client; and
- 14 c. A brief description of the business that the client is engaged in, if any.
- 15 (c) Lobbying entity registration information. A lobbying entity shall provide the following
16 information on its registration statement:
- 17 (1) A list of all lobbyists employed by the lobbying entity and any other employees who
18 may engage in lobbying on behalf of clients or the lobbying entity itself, including each individual's full
19 name, email address, telephone number, and business address, if any;
- 20 (2) A list of legislative and administrative subject areas the lobbying entity expects to
21 engage in lobbying, together with a general description of the entity's legislative and administrative
22 lobbying activities; and
- 23 (3) A list of all clients the lobbying entity represents, including for each client:
- 24 a. The client's name and address or, if the client is a business entity, its business
25 name and business address; and
- 26 b. A brief description of the business that the client is engaged in, if any.
- 27 (d) Business or employment relationship. A lobbyist or lobbying entity that has a business
28 or employment relationship with a covered official shall disclose that relationship on the registration
29 statement.
- 30 (e) Registration fee. Each lobbyist and lobbying entity shall pay a one-hundred-dollar
31 (\$100) registration fee when filing a registration statement with the city clerk.

1 ~~(d)(f) Amendments. Any changes, additions, or deletions to the registration statement shall~~
2 ~~be filed with the city clerk within five (5) days of the effective date of the amendment. no later than the~~
3 ~~due date of the next bi-monthly activity report required under section 2-303.~~

4 ~~(e) The clerk shall notify covered officials within five working days whenever a new~~
5 ~~lobbyist registers or a previously registered lobbyist has terminated lobbyist status or added a new~~
6 ~~client or changed a business address, telephone number, or business email address.~~

7

8 **Sec. 2-303. – Bi-monthly financial activity report.**

9 ~~(a) Form of report; duty of city clerk. The city clerk shall prepare forms for the bi-monthly~~
10 ~~financial reports and other information required to be filed by this article and electronically furnish~~
11 ~~such forms and information for use by persons subject to the requirements herein.~~

12 ~~(a)(b) Reports required. A financial report shall be filed bi-monthly. Each registered lobbyist~~
13 ~~and lobbying entity shall file a bi-monthly activity report with the city clerk by each registered lobbyist.~~
14 ~~The report shall be filed no later than the fifteenth day of the succeeding month.~~

15 ~~(c) Information required. The bi-monthly financial reports required hereunder shall contain~~
16 ~~the following information for the reporting person:-~~

17 ~~(1) The reporting person's full name, business or occupation, business mailing address,~~
18 ~~and business telephone number;~~

19 ~~(2) When a lobbyist reports an expenditure for lobbying a covered official, the following~~
20 ~~shall be listed by individual lobbyist:-~~

21 ~~a. An itemized list and the estimated value of all gifts, entertainment, and direct~~
22 ~~or indirect expenditures to, on behalf of, or benefitting the covered official for lobbying purposes,~~
23 ~~including, but not limited to: monies, tickets, gratuities, transfers, loans, advances, deposits,~~
24 ~~promises, expressed or implied agreements, or any tangible or intangible thing of value of any~~
25 ~~amount;~~

26 ~~b. The name of the client or employer on whose behalf money is expended;~~

27 ~~c. The name and title of the covered official lobbied;~~

28 ~~d. The date lobbied and the legislative matters on which the official was lobbied;~~

29 and

30 ~~(3) The city clerk will make the completed financial reports available to the public online~~
31 ~~within a reasonable time, not to exceed seven (7) business days from the date of receipt of the~~
32 ~~completed financial reports.~~

1 **(b) Lobbying activity report.** Each lobbyist and lobbying entity shall disclose the following
2 activities, if any, that occurred during the reporting period:

3 **(1) Gifts.** Any gift given or transferred to a covered official during the reporting period. For
4 purposes of this section, a gift does not include an in-kind contribution from an organization for the
5 purpose of allowing a covered official to attend a function sponsored by that organization, or a
6 payment to a nonprofit organization for the purpose of allowing a covered official to attend a function
7 of the nonprofit organization. For each gift the report shall include:

8 a. An itemized description and the estimated value of all gifts, entertainment, or
9 direct or indirect expenditures to, on behalf of, or benefitting the covered official;

10 b. The name, title, and agency of the covered official who received the gift;

11 c. The date the gift was given to the covered official; and

12 d. The name of the client or employer on whose behalf the expenditure was
13 made, if any. .

14 **(2) Compensation.**

15 a. An estimate of the compensation the lobbyist or lobbying entity received from
16 each client for lobbying during the reporting period, if any; and

17 b. For a lobbying entity that does not receive compensation from clients but
18 engages in lobbying on its own behalf, an estimate of the total compensation paid to lobbyists or
19 other employees for lobbying during the reporting period, if any.

20 **(3) Legislative matters.** Each lobbyist and lobbying entity shall report, for each legislative
21 matter lobbied:

22 a. The name of the client on whose behalf the lobbying was conducted;

23 b. The name, title, and agency of each covered official lobbied; and

24 c. A description of the legislative matter including the council bill, ordinance, or
25 resolution number, if known.

26 **(4) Administrative matters.** Each lobbyist and lobbying entity shall report, for each
27 administrative matter lobbied:

28 a. The name of the client on whose behalf the lobbying was conducted;

29 b. The name, title, and agency of each covered official lobbied; and

30 c. A description of the administrative matter.

31 **(5) Grassroots lobbying expenditures.** For each grassroots lobbying expenditure made
32 during the reporting period, the following information is required:

- 1 a. The date the expenditure was made or agreed to be made;
- 2 b. The amount of the expenditure;
- 3 c. The name of the person whom the registrant contracted with or otherwise
- 4 agreed to make the expenditure;
- 5 d. A description of the expenditure;
- 6 e. The specific legislative matter or administrative matter to which the
- 7 expenditure relates; and
- 8 f. If the expenditure was made on behalf of or directed by a client, the name of
- 9 the client or clients.

10 (c) Attestation and affirmation. The individual filing the report shall attest to the report's

11 accuracy. If there is no activity to report, the individual shall affirm that no reportable activity occurred

12 during the reporting period.

13

14 **Sec. 2-304. - Termination of lobbyist status.**

15 ~~A lobbyist may terminate his or her registration by filing an amendment pursuant to section 2-302(d).~~

16 (a) Termination of registration. A lobbyist or individual filing on behalf of a lobbyist or

17 lobbying entity may terminate a registration by filing an affirmation that the lobbyist or lobbying entity

18 is no longer engaged in lobbying on any legislative or administrative matter.

19 (b) Re-registration required. A lobbyist or lobbying entity whose registration is terminated

20 may not engage in lobbying unless the lobbyist or lobbying entity re-registers and pays the applicable

21 registration fee.

22 (c) Term of registration. A registration is valid for the remainder of the calendar year in

23 which the registrant files, unless the registrant terminates the registration under subsection (a). All

24 registrations end on December 31 of the calendar year, and each registrant shall renew their

25 registration and pay the applicable fee for the following calendar year.

26

27 **Sec. 2-305. - Exceptions.**

28 (a) The provisions of this article shall not apply to:

29 (1) Any newspaper or other regularly published periodical, radio or television station

30 (including any individual who owns, publishes or is employed by any such newspaper, periodical,

31 radio or television station), which, in the ordinary course of business, publishes news items, editorials

32 or other comments or paid advertisements which directly or indirectly urge action upon municipal

1 decisions, if such newspaper, periodical, radio or television station or individual engages in no further
2 or other activities in connection with action upon such municipal decision;

3 ~~(2) Any individual communicating and/or or appearing on his own behalf, or appearing
4 without compensation or consideration on behalf of an ad hoc committee, with respect to a legislative
5 decision, in support thereof or opposition thereto, pursuant to a procedure mandated by state or
6 federal law, or pursuant to any procedure mandated by local ordinance or rule or regulation for
7 levying an assessment against real property for the construction or maintenance of an improvement,
8 for any rezoning proposal, for any comprehensive plan or amendment thereto, or any proposal for a
9 landmark designation.;~~

10 ~~(2) Any government official from any unit of government, including other local, state, or
11 federal officials acting in their official capacity;~~

12 ~~(3) Any person who is not a registered lobbyist and who limits their activities to
13 appearances to give testimony or provide information to city council or at a public hearing, or who
14 gives testimony or provides information at the request of a public official or employee.~~

15 ~~(b) Lobbying does not include:~~

16 ~~(1) The submission of a written request to a covered official for a revocable permit
17 pursuant to Charter section 3.2.7 or submission of a written request for vacation, easement, or
18 dedication of a public right-of-way; or~~

19 ~~(2) Communications made by a person or business for the purpose of marketing,
20 promoting, or selling goods or services, provided that such communication does not include a
21 request for action on a legislative or administrative matter.~~

22 ~~(3) Communications made in the course of an official procurement process, including the
23 submission of a bid, proposal, or other response to a publicly advertised solicitation, or any
24 communication otherwise permitted by that process.~~

25
26 **~~Sec. 2-306. -- Employment of unregistered person. Reserved.~~**

27 ~~No person shall employ for pay or any other consideration or agree to pay any consideration to an
28 individual to engage in lobbying covered officials, unless such individual is a registered lobbyist, or
29 agrees to register in accordance with section 2-302 herein.~~

30
31 **~~Sec. 2-307. -- Violation of this article. Reserved.~~**

1 It shall be unlawful for any person to violate, or fail to comply with, the provisions of this article XIII
2 of chapter 2 of the Revised Municipal Code. It shall also be unlawful to file any document provided for
3 in this article which contains any materially false statement or material omission.

4
5 **Sec. 2-308. - Rules and regulations.**

6 The city clerk may promulgate rules and regulations to define, interpret, implement and enforce the
7 provisions of this article and to prevent the evasion of the requirements of this article. The city clerk
8 shall promulgate rules and regulations to provide for show cause hearings as required herein. In
9 addition to the requirements for adopting rules and regulations established by article VI of chapter
10 2 of the Revised Municipal Code, the The clerk shall notify the council by a formal communication
11 whenever a new rule is issued or an existing rule is revised.

12
13 **Sec. 2-309. - Powers of the city clerk; complaint procedures; enforcement; penalties. granting**
14 **and revoking of certificates; barring from registration; reporting to city attorney for criminal**
15 **prosecution.**

16 (a) Reserved.

17 (b) On his or her own motion or on the verified complaint of any person, the city clerk shall
18 investigate the activities of any person who is or who has allegedly engaged in lobbying and who may
19 be in violation of any provision of this article.

20 (c) The city clerk may apply to the district court of the City and County of Denver for the
21 issuance of an order requiring any person who is believed by the city clerk to be engaging in lobbying
22 without having registered as provided in section 2-302, to produce documentary evidence which is
23 relevant or material to a determination of the matter.

24 (d) After notice has been given and a hearing held, if the city clerk finds that a violation of
25 this article has occurred, the clerk shall issue a cease and desist order setting forth the provisions
26 that have been violated and the facts underlying the violation and shall:

- 27 (1) Issue a written warning to the person who committed the violation; or
- 28 (2) Revoke, or suspend for a maximum period of twelve (12) months, the certificate of
29 registration required by section 2-302;
- 30 (3) Bar a person from registration for a maximum period of twelve (12) months; or
- 31 (4) Report the violation to the city attorney for consideration of criminal prosecution of the
32 person as provided in sections 2-307 and 1-13 of the Revised Municipal Code.

1 ~~(e) The clerk shall notify covered officials within five working days regarding any action~~
2 ~~taken pursuant to paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section.~~

3 (a) *Complaints, hearing officer procedures, and final determination of complaint.*

4 (1) *Citizen complaints.* A resident of the city who believes a violation of this article has
5 occurred may file a written complaint with the city clerk no later than sixty (60) days after the date on
6 which the complainant either knew or should have known, by the exercise of reasonable diligence, of
7 the alleged violation. Each complaint shall identify the person alleged to have committed a violation,
8 the date of the violation, the facts giving rise to the violation, the provisions of this article alleged to
9 have been violated, and any other information required by the city clerk. The city clerk shall not
10 accept a complaint that fails to meet the requirements of this subsection.

11 (2) *Response and Dismissal.* If the complaint meets the requirements of subsection (a)(1),
12 the city clerk shall notify the person alleged to have committed the violation (the "respondent") and
13 order the respondent to file a response within thirty (30) days of such notification. If the complaint is
14 filed by a resident, the city clerk may dismiss the complaint if:

15 a. The respondent has cured the alleged violation;

16 b. The respondent has already been issued an administrative citation related to
17 the violation;

18 c. Based on the information in the complaint and taking the facts stated therein
19 as true, the complainant has not stated a plausible violation of this article; or

20 d. Based on the information in the complaint and the response, there is sufficient
21 information to find, by a preponderance of evidence, that no violation has been committed.

22 (3) *Complaints filed by the city clerk.*

23 a. The city clerk is authorized to file a complaint with an administrative hearing
24 officer appointed pursuant to this section, after providing notice of the violation, if the person alleged
25 to have committed the violation has failed to cure.

26 b. For any violation of this article other than a reporting violation, the city clerk
27 may issue a notice of violation by mail to the last known address of the person alleged to have
28 violated this article. The notice shall contain the identity of the person alleged to have committed a
29 violation, the date of the violation, the facts giving rise to the violation, and the provisions of this article
30 alleged to have been violated. Any person who has received a notice of an alleged violation shall
31 have ten (10) days from the mailing date of the notice to cure the violation. If the person fails to cure
32 the violation, the city clerk shall file a complaint in accordance with this subsection.

1 (4) Appointment and qualifications of hearing officer. Upon receipt of a response that does
2 not result in dismissal pursuant to subsection (b), or upon the filing of a complaint by the city clerk, the
3 city clerk shall appoint an administrative hearing officer to render a final decision regarding the
4 complaint. The administrative hearing officer may not be career service personnel of the city clerk's
5 office or otherwise work in a full-time capacity as an employee of the city clerk but shall be an agent
6 or employee of the city. Additionally, any person designated to serve as an administrative hearing
7 officer shall be subject to the standards of conduct set forth in the Colorado Code of Judicial Conduct
8 and subject to disqualification for bias, prejudice, interest, or for any other reason for which a judge
9 may be disqualified in a court of law.

10 (5) Final determination. Upon receipt of the complaint, response, and any other
11 information provided by the city clerk, the hearing officer shall schedule a date and time for a hearing
12 or, if there are no genuine issues of material fact in the complaint, render a final decision based on
13 written briefing by the parties. If the hearing officer determines that a hearing on the complaint is
14 necessary, the hearing shall be set no later than thirty (30) days from the mailing date of notice of the
15 hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing or upon review of the written briefs, the hearing officer shall
16 issue a written final decision determining whether the complainant has shown by a preponderance of
17 evidence that the respondent has committed a violation of this article. Upon finding a violation, the
18 hearing officer may assess a penalty as set forth in subsection (d). The final decision together with
19 the penalty may be appealed pursuant to Rule 106 of the Colorado Rules of Civil Procedure.

20 (6) Authority of hearing officer. The hearing officer shall have the power to control the
21 hearing including, but not limited to, setting a schedule for written for briefings, ruling upon motions
22 and offers of proof, receiving and admitting evidence, limiting the presentation of evidence and cross-
23 examination so as to prevent repetitive and cumulative evidence or examination, and ordering any
24 person to be removed from the hearing. The hearing officer is entitled to examine any witness and
25 request the submission of additional evidence and arguments. At the request of any party to the
26 hearing, the hearing officer may subpoena witnesses, documents, and other evidence where the
27 attendance of the witness or the admission of evidence is deemed necessary to decide the issues at
28 the hearing. Any subpoena must be served by delivering a copy of it to the person named or by
29 sending it to them by first-class mail. All costs related to the subpoena, including witness and mileage
30 fees, shall be borne by the party requesting the subpoena. Any subpoena is enforceable by the
31 requesting party in the county court. The respondent and complainant may present evidence to the

1 hearing officer in the form of testimony, documents, rebuttal testimony, and opening and closing
2 statements.

3 (b) Late and deficient reports.

4 (1) The city clerk may issue an administrative citation only for the failure to file a report
5 required by this article or cure a deficient report. The procedures for enforcement, penalty, and
6 appeals of such an administrative citation shall be specified in this section.

7 (2) Prior to issuing an administrative citation for a deficient report, the city clerk shall
8 notify the point of contact disclosed for a registered lobbyist or lobbying entity by mail, telephone, or
9 email with respect to any deficiencies found. The notice shall include a description of each deficiency
10 and instructions on how to cure.

11 (3) Any person who has been issued an administrative citation for a reporting violation
12 may request that the city clerk waive or reduce the fine. Such request shall be filed within ten (10)
13 days of the due date of the fine. In determining whether to waive or reduce any such fine, the city
14 clerk may consider the requestor's history of delinquency, outstanding penalties, and any other
15 information provided by the requestor. The city clerk shall issue a written final decision granting or
16 denying the request within five (5) business days.

17 (c) Enforcement. The city clerk, or an administrative hearing officer rendering a final
18 decision, is authorized to assess civil penalties or refer matters to the city attorney for potential
19 criminal prosecution as provided in this section.

20 (d) Civil penalties.

21 (1) The penalty for a reporting violation shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day but shall not
22 exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per violation.

23 (2) The penalty for a violation of this article, other than a reporting violation, shall be
24 within the discretion of a hearing officer and may include any of the following remedies:

25 a. A written warning to the person who committed the violation;

26 b. Revocation or suspension, for not more than twelve (12) months, of the
27 lobbyist's or lobbying entity's certificate of registration;

28 c. The barring of a person or entity from registration for a maximum period of
29 twelve (12) months; or

30 d. A monetary penalty not to exceed nine hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$999.00)
31 per violation.

1 (e) Criminal penalty. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate, or fail to comply with, the
2 provisions of this article with the intent to hinder or prevent any disclosure required under this article.
3 It shall also be unlawful to file any document provided for in this article that contains any materially
4 false statement or material omission. Any such violation shall be subject to the penalties authorized
5 in section 1-13.

6
7 **Sec. 2-310.-- Notice. Reserved.**

8 ~~If, in any bi-monthly financial report filed under section 2-303, it is reported that more than fifty dollars~~
9 ~~(\$50.00) was spent while lobbying a covered official or that a lobbyist donated to a covered official~~
10 ~~any meals, tickets to events for which admission is charged, or reduced price admissions to events~~
11 ~~for which admission is charged, then the city clerk shall notify the covered official in writing within~~
12 ~~twenty one (21) days. The city clerk shall also notify any covered official if a lobbyist reports any~~
13 ~~business or employment relationship involving that official within twenty one (21) days. Following~~
14 ~~receipt of either notification, the covered official may, within fifteen (15) days, file a written statement~~
15 ~~containing the reasons why his or her name should not be included in the report. This statement shall~~
16 ~~be attached to and remain a part of the report.~~

17
18 **Sec. 2-311.-- Fees. Reserved.**

- 19 (a) ~~The clerk is authorized to establish fees and late filing penalties for:~~
20 ~~(1) Filing of lobbyist registration statements as required by subsection 2-302(b);~~
21 ~~(2) Amending lobbyist registration statements as required by subsection 2-302(d);~~
22 ~~(3) Filing bi-monthly financial reports as required by subsection 2-303(b);~~

23
24 ~~The clerk shall establish a fee schedule and make said schedule available to the public online.~~

25
26 **Sec. 2-312. - Prohibited practices.**

27 No person engaging in lobbying shall:

- 28 (1a) Attempt to influence any covered official by means of deceit or by threat of violence
29 or economic or political reprisal against any person or property, with intent thereby to alter or affect
30 such covered official's decision, vote, opinion, or action concerning any legislative matter which is to
31 be considered or performed by him or her or the agency or body of which he or she is a member;

1 (2b) Knowingly provide false information to any covered official as to any material fact
2 pertaining to any legislative matter which is to be considered or performed by him or her or the
3 agency or body of which he or she is a member;

4 (3c) Misappropriate or misuse city office supplies;

5 (4d) Use city reproduction machines without paying for such use;

6 (5e) Enter or use a covered official's office, phone, or parking space without explicit
7 permission;

8 (6f) View, remove, or attempt to remove any document, record, or information in any form
9 whatsoever, from any covered official's office, desk, files, reproduction machine, computer
10 equipment, or computer files or from any other place or source without explicit permission;

11 ~~(7) Lobby a covered official in any city building unless the lobbyist is wearing a clearly
12 visible badge identifying his or her name and firm, and unless the lobbyist discloses to the covered
13 official the person whom the lobbyist is representing if requested by the covered official; provided,
14 however, that the penalty for failing to wear a clearly visible badge shall be a letter of reprimand from
15 the clerk.~~

16

17 **Sec. 2-313. – Post-service lobbying restriction.**

18 A former elected official or member of the Mayor's cabinet may not engage in lobbying for
19 compensation or any other thing of value for a period of eighteen (18) months after the date that the
20 official leaves office.

21

22 **Sec. 2-314. – Training required.**

23 A registered lobbyist or an individual responsible for filing the registration and reports for a lobbying
24 entity shall take the city clerk's approved training annually. The training shall be completed within
25 thirty (30) days of registration.

26

27 **Sec. 2-315. – Disclosure of lobbyist status.**

28 A lobbyist and any individual employed by a lobbying entity who engages in lobbying shall:

29 (a) When providing testimony or information at a public hearing, disclose on the record
30 that the individual is a registered lobbyist or is engaged in lobbying and identify any client on whose
31 behalf the individual is appearing; and

1 (b) When communicating orally or in writing with a covered official for the purpose of
2 lobbying, disclose at the time of the communication that the individual is a lobbyist or is engaged in
3 lobbying and identify any client on whose behalf the individual is acting.

4

5 **Section 2.** This ordinance shall become effective on January 1, 2027.

6 COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE:

7 MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE:

8 PASSED BY THE COUNCIL: _____

9 _____ - PRESIDENT

10 APPROVED: _____ - MAYOR _____

11 ATTEST: _____ - CLERK AND RECORDER,
12 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
13 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

14 NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL: _____; _____

15 PREPARED BY: _____, Assistant City Attorney DATE:

16 Pursuant to section 13-12, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of the
17 City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form and have no legal objection to the proposed
18 ordinance. The proposed ordinance is not submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to §
19 3.2.6 of the Charter.

20
21 _____, Denver City Attorney

22
23 BY: _____, Assistant City Attorney DATE:

24 _____

25