
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1669 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY SACCONI, KNOWLES AND ROCK, SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in ethics standards and financial
3 disclosure, prohibiting certain transportation, lodging and
4 hospitality and providing for exceptions.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 65 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding sections to read:

9 § 1103.1. Transportation, lodging and hospitality.

10 (a) General rule.--No person from whom a public official or
11 a public employee is prohibited under this chapter from
12 receiving any gift of economic value shall provide the public
13 servant with more than \$100 in transportation, lodging or
14 hospitality at any single or series of events occurring within a
15 24-hour period. The amount of the transportation, hospitality or
16 lodging shall not exceed \$100, regardless of the number of
17 persons or entities providing the food, drink or refreshments.

18 (b) Annual limit.--In no event shall such person provide
19 transportation, hospitality or lodging to a public official or

1 public employee valued at more than \$650 in the aggregate during
2 the calendar year.

3 (c) Calculation of limit.--Where a group of public officials
4 or public employees are invited to an event, the \$100 limit is
5 calculated by dividing the total cost of the food, drink and
6 refreshments by the number of persons invited to the event.
7 § 1103.2. Exceptions.

8 The prohibition stated in section 1103.1 (relating to
9 transportation, lodging and hospitality) shall not apply to the
10 following:

11 (1) Gifts or other things of value from a relative or
12 friend, unless the relative or friend is in a restricted
13 relationship as delineated in this chapter. The term "friend"
14 shall not include a registered lobbyist or principal.

15 (2) A "contribution," as defined in section 1621 of the
16 act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the
17 Pennsylvania Election Code, lawfully made under that act.

18 (3) Informational materials that are sent to the office
19 of the public official in the form of books, articles,
20 periodicals, other written materials, audiotapes, videotapes
21 or other forms of communication for nonentertainment
22 purposes.

23 (4) Awards or prizes that are given to competitors in
24 contests or events open to the public, including random
25 drawings.

26 (5) Honorary degrees and awards and associated travel,
27 food, refreshments and entertainment provided in the
28 presentation of the degrees and awards.

29 (6) Training provided to a public official or public
30 employee, if the training is in the interest of the

1 governmental entity. This paragraph shall include food and
2 refreshments furnished to all attendees as an integral part
3 of the training.

4 (7) An educational mission, including a meeting with
5 government officials, either foreign or domestic, intended to
6 educate public officials on matters of public policy, to
7 which the public official may be invited to participate along
8 with other Federal, State or local public officials and
9 community leaders.

10 (8) Anything paid for by the Federal, State or other
11 government or governmental entity under a government
12 contract.

13 (9) A plaque, trophy or other item that is substantially
14 commemorative in nature and has minimal value.

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.