



2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 51

March 1, 2013 – Introduced by Representatives WACHS, MILROY, HEBL, JORGENSEN, OHNSTAD, POPE, BERCEAU and BROOKS, cosponsored by Senators LEHMAN, LASSA, RISSER and HARRIS. Referred to Committee on Government Operations and State Licensing.

- 1 **AN ACT to create** 19.45 (8m) of the statutes; **relating to:** employment by a former
2 member of the legislature as a lobbyist.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits any individual who serves as a member of the legislature, for 24 months following the date on which the individual ceases to hold office, from being employed as a lobbyist. “Lobbyist” is defined as an individual who is compensated by a principal and whose duties include attempting to influence state legislative action or state administrative rule-making action on behalf of the principal; if an individual’s duties on behalf of a principal are not limited exclusively to lobbying, the individual is a lobbyist only if he or she makes lobbying communications on each of at least five days during a six-month reporting period.

Violators of the prohibition are subject to a forfeiture (civil penalty) of not more than \$5,000 for each violation. Intentional violators are guilty of a misdemeanor and are subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year or both for each violation.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

