Statement of Estimated State Revenue Impact

Date: February 22, 2013

Bill Number: S.B. 338

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Committee Requesting Impact: Senate Judiciary Committee

Bill Summary
A bill to establish the "2013 Ethics Reform Act", by amending Chapter 17, Title 2, of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, relating to lobbyists and lobbying, so as to require that a lobbyist and lobbyist principal pay a two hundred dollar registration fee, and that lobbyists and lobbyist principals' reports are due by January tenth and July tenth; to amend Article 1, Chapter 13, Title 8, relating to general provisions concerning ethics, government accountability, and campaign reform, ... (intentionally truncated).

REVENUE IMPACT

This bill would not affect state General Fund revenue. This bill would increase registration fee revenue to be retained by the State Ethics Commission by an estimated $108,700 in FY2013-14.

Explanation
The following sections of this bill contain provisions that will affect state revenue collections.

Part I, Sections 1 and 2. This bill would amend Sections 2-17-20 and 2-17-25 to increase lobbyists and lobbyist's principal registration fees from the current $100 per year to $200 per year. The $100 per year fee increase would be used to offset the costs of administering and enforcing the Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act. Any excess funds may be carried-forward to be used for the same purpose. According to the State Ethics Commission, approximately 1,087 lobbyists and lobbyist's principals are currently registered with the Commission. Multiplying 1,087 lobbyists and lobbyist's principals by a proposed fee increase of $100, yields an estimated $108,700 of registration fees that may be retained by the State Ethics Commission in FY2013-14.

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1/ This statement meets the requirement of Section 2-7-71 for a state revenue impact by the BEA, or Section 2-7-76 for a local revenue impact of Section 6-1-85(B) for an estimate of the shift in local property tax incidence by the Office of Economic Research.

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