



## NEWS RELEASE

Respond to:  
P.O. Box 185  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0185

(609) 292-8700

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CONTACT: AMANDA S. HAINES  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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### **Annual Lobbying Reports Due February 18**

Annual reports that disclose financial activity by lobbyists in 2024 must be filed by 5 p.m. February 18<sup>1</sup> with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC).

These reports reflect the activities of represented entities, government affairs agents and persons or groups communicating with the general public (grassroots lobbying). They detail information on total spending, clients, fees, communication costs, benefit passing, and lobbyist salaries.

Copies of the reports will be available after 7 p.m. on ELEC's website at [www.elec.nj.gov/publicinformation/gaa\\_annual.htm](http://www.elec.nj.gov/publicinformation/gaa_annual.htm). A spreadsheet summarizing receipts, expenditures, fees and information on benefit passing will be released a few days later.

Annual reports filed last year showed that lobbying expenditures in 2023 topped \$96 million. Lobbying spending peaked at \$107 million in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are about 900 lobbyists registered in New Jersey.

These reports permit citizens to observe the activities of individual lobbyists, their firms, and learn of the interests they represent. The reports enable ELEC staff to track trends in New Jersey lobbying activity.

For more information on lobbying, go to: [www.elec.nj.gov/forcandidates/gaa\\_ed\\_train.htm](http://www.elec.nj.gov/forcandidates/gaa_ed_train.htm).

Those who lack access to the internet can visit the ELEC's public records room. There is no charge for the first 50 pages. Additional pages can be purchased under charges set forth in the "Open Public Records Act." Currently, those charges are \$0.05 per letter size pages or smaller, or \$0.07 per legal size pages or larger.

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<sup>1</sup> Annual reports statutorily are supposed to be filed by February 15. Because this year the date falls on a weekend and Monday February 17 is a holiday, the deadline moves to Tuesday February 18.