

**House Business Labor and Commerce Committee**  
March 4th, 2025

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**Bill: 4th substitute SB 327 – Public Sector Labor Organization Definition Amendments**

Sponsor: Senator Lincoln Fillmore

Floor Sponsor: Representative Stephen L. Whyte

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill modifies the state labor code.

Discussion: The sponsor presented the 4th substitute, which was adopted by the Committee. He explained that the changes in this substitute involved minor language refinements and noted that multiple groups were working on these adjustments simultaneously. The sponsor stated that the Bill establishes a coordinating clause to supersede certain provisions from the 1st substitute of HB 267, which were inadvertently omitted when that Bill passed both chambers. Additionally, the Bill refines the definition of a public employer for greater clarity and clarifies that union activity does not include internal functions specified in a contract.

Representative Ivory asked how this Bill coordinates with HB 267. The sponsor explained that it clarifies definitions if HB 267 is enacted. No further discussion followed.

Yeas: 11

Nays: 2

N/V: 3

**Outcome: 4th substitute SB 327 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

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**Bill: 1st substitute SB 291 – Lobbying Amendments**

Sponsor: Senator Brady Brammer

Floor Sponsor: Representative Jordan D. Teuscher

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill amends and enacts provisions relating to lobbying.

Discussion: Senator Brammer explained that the Bill strengthens restrictions on contingent compensation for lobbying related to certain government actions by introducing new disclosure requirements. These disclosures specifically address lobbying efforts involving an ownership interest. Additionally, the Bill modifies provisions for higher education institutions. Currently, lobbyists for these institutions can invite individuals to sporting events, but the Bill expands this privilege to allow legislators to attend arts-related events hosted by higher education institutions, ensuring nonprofit organizations receive equal treatment. The Bill also updates regulations on lobbying by former state officials and raises the gift limit from \$10 to \$25 to adjust for inflation. The sponsor emphasized that the primary goal of the Bill is to enhance transparency and tighten rules around contingency-based lobbying.

Representative Nguyen asked whether lobbyists with any ownership interest in a non-trading business, even a small percentage, would be required to disclose it. The sponsor confirmed that all ownership interests must be disclosed. Representative Nguyen then inquired whether lobbyists would need to disclose this information every time they interacted with legislators. The sponsor clarified that this would not always be necessary. She also asked if lobbyists had pushed back against the Bill. The sponsor stated that the only opposition received was a request to remove provisions related to public trading ownership.

Representative Dunnigan asked what additional privileges higher education lobbyists would now have under the Bill. The sponsor explained that legislators could attend events if invited directly by a university, but if a third party extended the invitation, legal issues could arise. Representative Teuscher asked whether lobbyists were only required to disclose ownership interests related to the lobbying group they work for, and the sponsor confirmed this was correct.

Representative Ivory questioned the rationale behind line 175 of the Bill. The sponsor explained that it is intended to prevent individuals from holding positions where they have an unfair advantage. Representative Thurston then asked about the impact of this provision. The sponsor clarified that while former legislators may still engage in governmental interactions, they would be prohibited from lobbying during a specified cooling-off period. Representative Thurston also asked whether a former State Auditor seeking to become a legislator or lobbyist would be subject to such a period. The sponsor believed a cooling-off period would apply but emphasized that this was not the primary intent of the Bill.

The Committee adopted Amendment 3, which broadened the language regarding university invitations. There were no public comments.

Yeas: 13

Nays: 0

N/V: 3

**Outcome: 1st substitute SB 291, as amended, passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**