

~~RULES & GOVERNMENT~~

MOTION

Los Angeles City voters recently passed Proposition R which contained a wide range of provisions related to lobbyists and their activities, including some prohibitions against lobbying activities by former City officials after they leave office or employment with the City.


City ethics laws ensure that there are lobbying limits on "City Officials", which includes elected officials and employees. "High-level" officials, including former elected officials, are banned from lobbying any City department or official for one year, while non-High-level officials are banned from lobbying their former department for one year. In any case, an official who has had a substantial role in a matter is permanently banned from lobbying on that matter. These bans are related only to personal contacts between the lobbyist and a current City official.

These laws, though, may provide too many criteria that may be confusing or allow individuals to work around the system. Review of the lobbying ordinances and policies at other governmental agencies should be conducted to identify any additional reforms that would simplify and strengthen the City's lobbyist laws and policies concerning former City officials.

Following the conduct of this review, the City Council should consider policies to safeguard the public's interest in this regard in the future.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council REQUEST the City Ethics Commission to report to the Audit & Governmental Efficiency Committee and the Rules & Government Committee in 60 days, with a review the City's lobbying laws and policies with regard to former employees. The report should include, but not be limited to: County of Los Angeles, Metro, Southern California Association of Governments, LAUSD, within the context of the laws and policies of other local, State, and federal governmental agencies, and report to City Council with its findings and recommendations on this matter.

Presented by: 
JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

Seconded by: 

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