

N.D.A.G. Letter to Meier (March 4, 1987)

March 4, 1987

Honorable Ben Meier
Secretary of State
State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Dear Secretary of State Meier:

Thank you for your letter of March 3, 1987, concerning the filing of a calendar year report by registered lobbyists.

N.D.C.C. § 54-05.1-03(2) requires a registered lobbyist to file a yearly report with the Secretary of State indicating each expenditure, if any, of \$25.00 or more expended during the year "on any individual." Thus, by the very words of the statute, the report required from registered lobbyists must include a statement of expenditures in excess of \$24.00 on any individual for that yearly period. This report is required regardless of whether the amount of \$25.00 or more spent on an individual is a one-time expenditure or whether it is a cumulative total at the end of the yearly reporting period.

Thus, if a lobbyist spent a total of \$3,000.00 on 150 legislators but spent less than \$25.00 on each legislator, the lobbyist would not be required to file the report required by N.D.C.C. § 54-05.1-03(2). On the other hand, a lobbyist who spends \$24.00 on an individual legislator every week during a yearly reporting period would have to file the report required by the statute as the sum of money spent "on any individual" would equal or exceed \$25.00.

Sincerely,

Nicholas J. Spaeth

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