

By: Menéndez, et al.

S.B. No. 161

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the completion of sexual harassment prevention training  
3 and ethics training to register as a lobbyist.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 305.005(f), Government Code, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (f) The registration must be written and verified and must  
8 contain:

9 (1) the registrant's full name and address;

10 (2) the registrant's normal business, business phone  
11 number, and business address;

12 (3) the full name and address of each person:

13 (A) who reimburses, retains, or employs the  
14 registrant to communicate directly with a member of the legislative  
15 or executive branch to influence legislation or administrative  
16 action; and

17 (B) on whose behalf the registrant has  
18 communicated directly with a member of the legislative or executive  
19 branch to influence legislation or administrative action;

20 (4) the subject matter of the legislation or of the  
21 administrative action that is the subject of the registrant's  
22 direct communication with a member of the legislative or executive  
23 branch and, if applicable, the docket number or other  
24 administrative designation of the administrative action;

1 (5) for each person employed or retained by the  
2 registrant for the purpose of assisting in direct communication  
3 with a member of the legislative or executive branch to influence  
4 legislation or administrative action:

5 (A) the full name, business address, and  
6 occupation of the person; and

7 (B) the subject matter of the legislation or of  
8 the administrative action to which the person's activities  
9 reportable under this section were related and, if applicable, the  
10 docket number or other administrative designation of the  
11 administrative action; ~~and~~

12 (6) the amount of compensation or reimbursement paid  
13 by each person who reimburses, retains, or employs the registrant  
14 for the purpose of communicating directly with a member of the  
15 legislative or executive branch or on whose behalf the registrant  
16 communicates directly with a member of the legislative or executive  
17 branch;

18 (7) a certificate evidencing the registrant's  
19 completion of a sexual harassment prevention training course in the  
20 previous two years, as required by Section 305.0052; and

21 (8) a certificate evidencing the registrant's  
22 completion of an ethics training course in the previous two years,  
23 as required by Section 305.0053.

24 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 305, Government Code, is  
25 amended by adding Sections 305.0052 and 305.0053 to read as  
26 follows:

27 Sec. 305.0052. SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION TRAINING. (a)

1 Each individual required to register under this chapter shall every  
2 two years:

3 (1) attend a sexual harassment prevention training  
4 course approved by the commission; and

5 (2) submit to the commission a certificate evidencing  
6 completion of the course.

7 (b) The certificate of completion must be in a form approved  
8 by the commission.

9 (c) The commission shall adopt rules as necessary to  
10 implement this section.

11 Sec. 305.0053. ETHICS TRAINING. (a) Each individual  
12 required to register under this chapter shall every two years:

13 (1) attend an ethics training course approved by the  
14 commission; and

15 (2) submit to the commission a certificate evidencing  
16 completion of the course.

17 (b) The certificate of completion must be in a form approved  
18 by the commission.

19 (c) The commission shall adopt rules as necessary to  
20 implement this section.

21 SECTION 3. Not later than December 1, 2025, the Texas Ethics  
22 Commission shall adopt rules as required by Sections 305.0052 and  
23 305.0053, Government Code, as added by this Act.

24 SECTION 4. Section 305.005, Government Code, as amended by  
25 this Act, applies only to a registration required to be filed under  
26 that section on or after January 1, 2026.

27 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.