

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 129  
By: West, Royce et al.  
State Affairs  
6/25/2007  
Enrolled

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Currently, public officials must only report the receipt of a gift valued over \$250, but are not required to disclose the actual value of the gift. In addition, current law requires lobbyists to disclose the manner in which the gift was made, e.g., check or money order, without disclosing the actual amount.

S.B. 129 requires the disclosure of the actual value of gifts received by lawmakers. The intent of this bill is to increase public confidence and foster greater ethical responsibility on behalf of lawmakers and lobbyists in providing full disclosure of monetary gifts made by lobbyists and lobbying firms.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 572.022, Government Code, by adding Subsection (d), as follows:

(d) Requires that an individual filing a financial statement, reported in accordance with Section 572.023(b)(7), include in the description of the gift a statement of value for a gift of cash or a cash equivalent, such as a negotiable instrument or gift certificate.

SECTION 2. Amends the heading of Section 572.022, Government Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 572.022. REPORTING CATEGORIES; REQUIRED DESCRIPTIONS.

SECTION 3. Makes application of this Act prospective to January 1, 2008.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 2007.