

1-1 By: Berman (Senate Sponsor - Harris) H.B. No. 2735
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 26, 2007;
1-3 May 1, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on State
1-4 Affairs; May 8, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 8, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to lobbying expenditures that are made jointly.

1-9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-10 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 305, Government Code, is
1-11 amended by adding Section 305.0021 to read as follows:

1-12 Sec. 305.0021. DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF JOINT
1-13 EXPENDITURE. (a) If a registrant, or a person on the registrant's
1-14 behalf and with the registrant's consent or ratification, joins
1-15 with another person to make an expenditure described by this
1-16 chapter, the amount of the expenditure made by or on behalf of the
1-17 registrant for purposes of this chapter includes only:

1-18 (1) the amount of the portion of the joint expenditure
1-19 contributed by the registrant; and

1-20 (2) the amount of any portion of the joint expenditure
1-21 that:

1-22 (A) is made on behalf of the registrant by a
1-23 person who is not a registrant; and

1-24 (B) is not otherwise reported under this chapter.

1-25 (b) For purposes of Section 36.02 or 36.10, Penal Code, the
1-26 amount of a joint expenditure that is attributed to a person who is
1-27 not a registrant is not an expenditure made and reported in
1-28 accordance with this chapter.

1-29 SECTION 2. Section 305.024, Government Code, is amended by
1-30 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

1-31 (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the total value of a
1-32 joint expenditure under Subsection (a)(2)(B), (C), or (D) may
1-33 exceed \$500 if each portion of the expenditure:

1-34 (1) is made by a registrant; and

1-35 (2) does not exceed \$500.

1-36 SECTION 3. (a) The change in law made by this Act applies
1-37 only to the making or reporting under Chapter 305, Government Code,
1-38 of an expenditure made on or after September 1, 2007. The making or
1-39 reporting under Chapter 305, Government Code, of an expenditure
1-40 made before September 1, 2007, is governed by the law in effect at
1-41 the time the expenditure is made, and the former law is continued in
1-42 effect for that purpose.

1-43 (b) The change in law made by this Act applies only to an
1-44 offense committed on or after September 1, 2007. For the purposes
1-45 of this section, an offense is committed before September 1, 2007,
1-46 if any element of the offense occurs before that date. An offense
1-47 committed before September 1, 2007, is covered by the law in effect
1-48 when the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in
1-49 effect for that purpose.

1-50 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

1-51 * * * * *