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S.F. No. 4700 – Lobbyist Definition Modifications (as amended by the A2 amendment)

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Section 1 from A2 amendment [10A.01, subd. 16b; Employees of a political subdivision] defines the term “employee of a political subdivision” in chapter 10A. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Section 1 from the bill as introduced [§10A.01, subd. 21; Lobbyist] amends the definition of “lobbyist” in chapter 10A. Strikes references to urging others to communicate with public or local officials. Excludes the following individuals from the definition:

- 1) an individual providing information, advice, professional opinions, or expertise to a local official at a lobbyist’s request; and
- 2) an individual providing information or advice to members of a collective bargaining unit when the unit is actively engaged in the collective bargaining process with a state agency or a political subdivision.

This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Section 2 from the bill as introduced [State and local lobbying activity; study required] requires the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board to study and make recommendations to the legislature on the definition of “lobbyist.” The study and recommendations must primarily focus on whether the law should distinguish between activities that constitute lobbying of a state government official and of a local official. The Board must submit a report with its results and recommendations by January 15, 2025.

Section 3 from the A2 amendment [§10A.01, subd. 33; Principal] amends the definition of “principal” in chapter 10A. Increases the threshold from \$500 to \$3000 so that a principal is an individual or association that spends more than \$3000 in the aggregate in a calendar year to engage or compensate a lobbyist. Strikes language linking the two clauses. Expands the application from metropolitan governmental units to all political subdivisions. This section is effective the day following final enactment.